



Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-89-057
Monday
27 March 1989

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FBIS-EAS-89-057

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Thailand's Chatchai at Socioeconomic Meeting
BK2703075989 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhavan this morning addressed the opening of the 45th annual meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP] at the United Nations building. The prime minister pointed out that at present many countries have focused more attention on the joint efforts to bring peace, progress, and development to their peoples. Therefore, the level of success and efficiency in the administration of a country should not be measured

by collection of war weapons, but by cooperation and upgrading of the people's living standard.

The prime minister said it should be noted with pleasure that the ESCAP has begun to pay more attention to the problem as it has set the Economic Reform for the Development Countries in Asia and the Pacific in the Nineties Decade as the main topic of this year's meeting. He therefore is confident that the guidelines or proposals made in this meeting would enable the countries in this region to perceive a clear view as to how they should adapt themselves to the world environments and be able to further develop their own economy and society.

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Few Prospects for ASEAN Cooperation Shown
OW2403155089 Tokyo KYODO in English 1215 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Singapore, March 24 (KYODO)—A two-day international defense forum ended in Singapore Friday with only mild enthusiasm and fewer prospects for greater ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) military and security cooperation.

One specialist, Thai political scientist Likhit Dhiravegin, said "Unless one talks about the long-term prospects of, say, the next two decades, it may be futile to discuss about defense against wars of aggression when everybody is busy with his effort to come up with a modern economy."

And according to Malaysia's Commodore Ahmad Ramli Nor, "The creation of a collective security system within the framework of ASEAN is unlikely, at least in the foreseeable period."

"However, this does not preclude security cooperation between member countries. Bilateral exercises are in fact regularly carried out between most ASEAN navies," he said.

Donald E. Weatherbee, of the Institute of Security and International Studies at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, saw a need for more cooperation.

"Realistically, in terms of the ASEAN states' declared interests in the South China Sea zone, the capabilities of the individual states (national resilience) should be addressed in terms of joint operations or coalition warfare with other friendly nations. Only then can we begin to speak of regional resilience as an integrated defense system," he said.

Japan

FSX Negotiator Extends Washington Stay
OW2603043189 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT
26 Mar 89

[Text] Washington, March 25 KYODO—A senior Japanese official Saturday postponed his departure for home until Wednesday in order to finalize a deal with the U.S. for codevelopment and joint production of a new Japanese fighter.

Japanese sources said Vice Defense Minister Seiki Nishihiro decided to remain in Washington until then in preparation for post-Easter holiday talks with high-level U.S. officials.

Nishihiro's extended stay indicated that Japanese newspaper reports of an agreement on the FSX were premature.

The FSX dispute focuses on a U.S. request for an American workshare of about 40 percent in the production phase of the deal, which was initialed last November.

Under the agreement, the U.S. is expected to receive a workshare of roughly 40 percent of the FSX development, or pre-production, phase of the program.

The talks also deal with the protection of the U.S. computer technology "source code" for general dynamics' F-16 fighter, on which the FSX is based, according to sources close to the talks.

Once President George Bush gets "clarifications" of these issues, as he has sought, he is expected to notify the Congress of the FSX pact.

The Japanese Defense Agency hopes to conclude an agreement with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, the prime contractor, by Friday, the final day of the Japanese fiscal year.

Protest Lodged Against U.S. Mock Bomb
OW2503050489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0426 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Aomori, March 25 KYODO—The Aomori Prefectural Government and the village of Rokkasho have lodged a protest with the U.S. Air Force base in Misawa over a dummy bomb which was dropped near the village on March 16, officials said Saturday.

U.S. Air Force pilots at the Misawa base mistakenly dropped the mock bomb near a proposed nuclear fuel reprocessing site at the village during bombing drills, according to the local office of the Japanese Defense Facilities Administration Agency.

Colonel John G. Lorber, commander at the base, mailed letters of apology to the prefectural and village offices on Wednesday [22 Mar], the Japanese officials said.

Firms To Explore Joint Ventures With USSR
OW2703134989 Tokyo KYODO in English 1150 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Osaka, March 27 KYODO—A group of smaller businesses in western Japan interested in trade with the Soviet Union is forming a committee to work toward expanding bilateral joint ventures, officials of the group said Monday.

The Kansai District Japan-USSR Trade Federation will also send as early as September a fact-finding mission comprising mainly engineers to three Soviet cities, including Khabarovsk, the officials said.

The plans, which were made public at the third Japan-Soviet conference on economy and trade held Monday in Osaka, are aimed at giving a boost to the local economy by strengthening the region's economic ties with the Soviet Union, they said.

The planned committee will consist of Soviet trade representatives in Japan and major members of the federation.

Committee members will exchange product information and discuss issues concerning joint ventures and the participation by small companies in the development of Siberia, according to the officials.

USSR's Rogachev Departs for Bangkok
OW2503060489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0553 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev concluded a week-long visit to Japan and left Tokyo for Thailand on Saturday, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Rogachev will represent the Soviet Union at a general meeting of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, opening in Bangkok on Monday.

TV Reporter To Visit Soviet Space Station
OW2703132289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—The Soviet Union will send a Japanese journalist to the Soviet space station by the end of 1991, Tokyo Broadcasting System [TBS], the sponsor of the space flight, said Monday.

The Tokyo-based TV network said an agreement on the flight was signed in Moscow earlier in the day.

In a press conference held in Moscow announcing the agreement, TBS Senior Vice President Kiichi Nakamura said a TBS reporter will be flown to Mir, the Soviet space station, aboard a Soyuz space ship. The conference was beamed live to Tokyo.

Three Japanese astronauts are currently under training in the United States for a flight aboard a U.S. space shuttle scheduled for July 1991.

It is not clear whether the TBS venture or the NASA project will go first.

According to Nakamura, a TBS reporter would stay on Mir for six days for TV and radio broadcasting from space in a project aimed at marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the TV station.

Mir, a 20-ton scientific-research space station, was launched in February 1986.

Chinese Official Claims Japanese Aided Tibetans
*OW2403145189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT
24 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 24 (KYODO)—Japan is investigating a senior Chinese official's accusation Tuesday [21 Mar] that Japanese "groups" trained and financed pro-independence Tibetan demonstrators, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials acknowledged Friday.

The officials said the Japanese Embassy in Beijing is looking into Chinese media reports that Yan Mingfu, head of the Chinese Communist Party's United Front Work Department, stated that "various Japanese groups" are assisting pro-independence activists. Yan did not implicate the Japanese Government.

A report by the CHINA NEWS SERVICE quoted Yan as saying that a pro-independence faction under the Dalai Lama, Tibet's self-exiled spiritual leader, aimed to use the Japanese-trained force to foment unrest in Lhasa on March 10, the 30th anniversary of a failed revolt against Chinese rule.

Chinese Premier Li Peng on Monday called foreign support for separatist activities in Tibet "an outrageous interference in China's internal affairs" and vowed it "will absolutely not be tolerated."

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Japan considers the Tibetan turmoil an internal Chinese affair and would not comment on the Chinese imposition of martial law in Lhasa on March 7.

PRC Tanker Runs Aground in Kanmon Strait
*OW2703020289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0132 GMT
27 Mar 89*

[Text] Kitakyushu, Fukuoka Pref., March 27 KYODO—A Chinese tanker carrying about 4,500 tons of naphtha ran aground early Monday but there were no reports of injuries to its 38-member crew, Maritime Safety Agency officials said.

The accident occurred at the western mouth of the Kanmon Strait, about 1.2 kilometers from Kitakyushu at around 3:30 a.m.

Officials said the 3,890-ton tanker Da Qing 422 is attempting to free itself. They also said there was no oil leakage.

The Da Qing 422 left Nanjing, China on March 22 and was bound for Tokuyama in Yamaguchi Prefecture.

Officials said they are checking why the Chinese tanker strayed from the normal channel in the strait.

Envoy Views Future PRC Economic Policy
*OW2503095689 Tokyo KYODO in English 0919 GMT
25 Mar 89*

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 (KYODO)—China will continue its open economic policy and its modernization program which has already passed "the point of no return," Japanese Ambassador in Beijing Toshihiro Nakajima said Saturday.

Nakajima told Japanese reporters that criticism leveled against Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang in the recent National People's Congress should be regarded as an argument over policy and not a power struggle.

He predicted that the Chinese Government would further promote its open economic policy after a few years of adjustment to check inflation.

Investment in the service industry would be restricted but those in high technology and export-promoting sectors would be welcome, he said.

Nakajima said China's modernization program has already passed "the point of no return" and a change of policy direction at this stage is impossible.

The power struggles which characterized the years following the Cultural Revolution have come to an end, and criticism against Zhao in the National People's Congress should not be regarded as a sign of another power struggle, he said.

Zhao, promoter of China's open economy, came under fire in the recent session of the Chinese parliament.

Nakajima said the visit to Japan in April by Premier Li Peng is significant in that it would help deepen mutual trust between Japan and China.

It is important for the two countries to discuss ways to promote cooperation for world peace, he said.

He added that China expects Japan to promote investment and technological interchanges and establishment of a mechanism to encourage Japanese investment would be one of major issues to be discussed by Li and Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Nakajima said Beijing's basic policy toward Japan would remain unchanged despite normalization of relations between China and the Soviet Union.

He declined comment on speculation that Li may invite Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko to visit China.

South Korean Captors Free Abducted Businessman
OW2503133489 Tokyo KYODO in English 1324 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 24 (KYODO)—Japanese businessman Tokuo Osawa, held hostage in South Korea for over a month in a business dispute, was freed in Seoul on Friday evening, the Japanese Embassy said.

Osawa, 54, president of Osawa Press Seisakusho [Manufacturing] in Tokyo's Akishima, was taken to a hospital where he was receiving medical checkups.

He was taken away from a Seoul hotel on February 20 by his abductors, believed led by Nam Jong-hyon, 47, president of Nam-il Machine Co.

Osawa was in Seoul to discuss complaints Nam-il raised over his company's alleged supply of faulty machines to the Korean firm.

Informed sources said Osawa time and again sent telex messages to his company's head office, saying he would be killed unless 500 million yen was paid to the Korean firm as compensation.

Osawa was released after his company paid damages to the Korean firm, the sources said.

France Suggests Projects for Summit Agenda
OW2403212289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1328 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 24 (KYODO)—France is sounding out Japan on the possibility of putting the promotion of major new international projects for developing areas on the agenda of an annual economic summit of industrialized democracies, to be held in suburban Paris in July, government sources said Friday.

Cited as instances of such "national-boundary transcending" projects are the development of the Senegal River Basin in Africa, the stopping of desertification and a push on desert afforestation, and flood control on the Ganges River in Bangladesh.

The government is wondering exactly what has prompted France to propose such projects, all requiring tremendous outlays, at this point in time, the sources said.

Until now, the summit was expected to focus on four subjects—policy coordination for monetary stability, heavy Third World debts, environmental protection and East-West issues.

In particular, the summit is likely to work out a specific plan for debt relief in the wake of a new proposal recently put forward by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, which calls for a shift of emphasis to debt forgiveness.

Environmental issues, such as global warming, are also expected to be a major topic.

Even if the proposed major projects are taken up at the summit, Japan wants them to be held over to future discussions, the sources said.

But if the summitters agree on the promotion of such projects, Japan will call for the promotion of projects not limited to relatively small areas—afforestation of deserts, for example.

France seems most enthusiastic about flood control in Bangladesh to prevent a repetition of a disastrous flood that claimed more than 1,600 lives last summer.

But there is strong suspicion within the government that the project is designed to serve French interests.

Moreover, if the summit decides to promote the proposed projects, the matter of funding by each nation is bound to emerge.

In that case, Japan, with a huge trade surplus, will probably be asked to make a major contribution. This could spell an additional fiscal burden at a time when Japan is substantially increasing its official development assistance (ODA), the sources said.

Takeshita Attempts To Allay Fears on New Tax
OW2703071389 Tokyo KYODO in English 0540 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Monday instructed senior Finance Ministry officials to step up public relations activities regarding a new consumption tax and mitigate taxpayers' dissatisfaction with it.

Takeshita issued the order at a joint meeting of finance ministry heads in charge of the bureaus of tax collection, customs and tariffs and the state treasury, as well as the senior officials of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Fair Trade Commission.

The premier ordered the officials to ensure that the local offices of the National Tax Administration Agency "respond fully" to inquiries and questions raised by taxpayers who will be required to pay a 3 percent consumption tax on most goods and services, starting from Saturday.

Takeshita also pledged government efforts to clamp down on possible "price gouging" by makers and distributors who might try to use the consumption tax as a cover to hike prices beyond the 3 percent provided for under the new tax law.

"I myself intend to make efforts to prevent price gouging and ensure an appropriate and smooth transfer of the consumption tax to consumers, while spearheading the efforts to secure public understanding of the tax," the premier said.

His remarks came at a time when consumers face growing fears that the next tax might trigger an inflationary spiral and when voters have demonstrated their disaffection with it by dealing a series of defeats to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party in local elections.

Takeshita reiterated at the meeting that the new tax would provide a budgetary basis to create a "rich elderly society" where the elderly would receive sufficient welfare services and security benefits despite the rapid aging of the populace.

Public uncertainty has been fueled by opposition parties' arguments that the government's explanation is unconvincing as the fiscal 1989 budget calls for raising the age at which people become eligible to receive state-run pension payments from the present 60 to 65 despite the introduction of the new tax.

Finance Minister Tatsuo Murayama, who also attended the meeting, also urged the ministry and agency officials to secure public confidence in the new tax policy.

Murayama urged the officials to make efforts to alleviate the public's growing sense of inequity over the new taxation system that incorporates the unpopular consumption tax as its major pillar.

His remarks came at a time when opposition parties are charging that the new taxation system favors the better-off in higher tax brackets, while putting increased tax burdens on the poor, as it will tax the basic necessities of living, such as food and clothes, while eliminating commodity taxes on luxury goods like jewelry and large yachts, among other things.

Murayama also instructed the related officials to conduct all-out preparations to enforce the new consumption tax.

Further Calls for House Dissolution

Komeito's Junya Yano

OW2503155089 Tokyo KYODO in English 1452 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Yokohama, March 25 KYODO—Junya Yano, chairman of the No. 2 opposition party Komeito, called Saturday for the resignation of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's cabinet and dissolution of the House of Representatives for a general election.

In a lecture meeting, Yano said his party will step up its demand for a general election and also press for political reform.

Komeito earlier proposed formation of a caretaker cabinet by four opposition parties—the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party and the United Social Democratic Party.

Yano predicted the widening Recruit scandal will lead to arrests of Education Ministry officials and politicians by the end of April.

He said his party would block the passage of the 1989 fiscal budget by the Diet unless former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone appears before the Diet as a witness to testify about his role in the scandal.

Time has come for Takeshita's government to dissolve the lower chamber and seek a public verdict, Yano said.

Voters would not understand Komeito is playing the leading role for political reform if it takes a lukewarm attitude toward the Recruit affair, Yano said.

He said now is the time for the party to make clear its determination to fight against the Takeshita cabinet.

JSP's Takako Doi

OW2503060589 Tokyo KYODO in English 0540 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Sapporo, March 25 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Chairwoman Takako Doi on Saturday urged the cabinet of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to resign en bloc.

In a speech at a meeting of her supporters in Sapporo, Doi said Takeshita must either resign or dissolve the House of Representatives now that his cabinet has suffered sharp declines in public approval ratings.

The leader of the largest opposition party also renewed her call for former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to testify in the Diet on his suspected role in the Recruit stock bribery scandal.

Recent news media polls show that public approval of the Takeshita cabinet has plummeted and is accompanied by a general distrust in government.

Earlier this month, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN put the approval ratings at 13 percent, the ASAHI SHIMBUN at 15 percent, and the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) at 16.2 percent.

Media analysts blame the declines on the bribery scandal, the unpopular 3 percent consumption tax, and liberalization of farm trade.

USDP's Satsuki Eda

OW2503060789 Tokyo KYODO in English 0529 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 KYODO—United Social Democratic Party [USDP] leader Satsuki Eda on Saturday joined the No. 2 opposition party Komeito in proposing a caretaker cabinet among opposition parties to supervise a general election.

In a speech at the party's convention, Eda, head of the minor opposition group, vowed to establish the caretaker government which would dissolve the House of Representatives for a snap general election.

A former judge and now two-term member of the lower chamber, Eda called for opposition efforts to seize a majority in the 512-seat lower house and to assume power from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Eda's call coincided with Komeito Chairman Junya Yano, who proposed on March 17 that an opposition caretaker cabinet be set up by the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Komeito, Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) and the USDP.

The head of the USDP, which holds only four seats in the powerful lower chamber, proposed that the four opposition parties join hands with the largest labor organization Rengo to field at least 300 candidates in the next general election.

The cabinet of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita has now lost voters' trust because of the Recruit stock bribery scandal, the 3 percent consumption tax and liberalization of farm trade, Eda said.

Eda said toppling the Takeshita cabinet is now the opposition's essential mission.

USDP Proposes All Resign

OW2503122489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0927 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 (KYODO)—The United Social Democratic Party [USDP] on Saturday proposed that all opposition members resign from the House of Representatives in order to force a dissolution of the lower chamber for a general election.

The minor opposition party, which holds only four out of all the 512 seats in the lower house, put forth the proposal in a resolution passed at the party's one-day convention here.

The USDP also approved a political platform aiming at establishing a caretaker cabinet among the four opposition parties—the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, Democratic Socialist Party and the USDP.

The document said the cabinet of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita does not deserve to be called a government because it has lost public support.

It proposed that the four opposition parties overthrow the Takeshita cabinet, form a caretaker cabinet, dissolve the lower house for a general election, win a majority in the house, and finally form a full-fledged coalition government.

Party leader Satsuki Eda told the convention that there is no other way for the opposition parties but to tighten solidarity as the first step to break the Liberal Democratic Party's overwhelming majority.

Eda was reelected as party leader and Shogo Abe as secretary general.

DSP's Eiichi Nagasue

OW2703135789 Tokyo KYODO in English 1039 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Nagasaki, March 27 KYODO—Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] Chairman Eiichi Nagasue said Monday that Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita had lost the ability to govern, and again urged his cabinet to resign en bloc.

Nagasue, here on a stumping visit, told reporters that Takeshita was doing nothing but enduring criticism for the Recruit stock trading and bribery scandal.

If such a cabinet continues to exist, it will be a calamity for Japan in a rapidly changing world, he said.

Echoing Komeito leader Junya Yano, Nagasue said it would be natural for the opposition camp to take over power following the mass resignation of the Takeshita cabinet.

The opposition cabinet would call for a general election for the House of Representatives, Nagasue said.

Earlier this month, Yano proposed that the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, DSP and the United Social Democratic Party establish a caretaker cabinet to supervise a general election.

Further Developments in Recruit Scandal

Opposition Demands Nakasone Testimony
OW2503104489 Tokyo KYODO in English 0937 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 (KYODO)—Opposition leaders on Saturday renewed their efforts to realize their demand that former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone be summoned to the Diet to testify on his suspected [role] in the Recruit stock bribery scandal.

Japan Socialist Party Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi, Komeito Secretary General Naohiko Okubo and Democratic Socialist Party Chairman Eiichi Nagasue all vowed such efforts in their speeches at a labor rally here which was attended by 50,000 people.

Yamaguchi hit the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] for refusing the opposition call for a Nakasone testimony.

LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe and former Chief Cabinet Secretary Masaharu Gotoda are completely wrong in maintaining that a former Prime Minister should not be summoned as a sworn witness to the Diet, he said.

If such thinking is correct, Yamaguchi went on to say, both the prosecution and court were unjust when they arrested former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and found him guilty of taking a 500 million yen bribe from Lockheed Corp.

Okubo said his party will never concede until Nakasone presents himself in the Diet to testify under oath.

Nagasue said the Diet must subpoena Nakasone in order to preserve Japan's democracy.

The three men spoke at the labor rally jointly sponsored by the country's two largest labor organizations Rengo and Sohyo to drum up current spring wage campaign. [sentence as received]

Former Prime Minister Nakasone, in power between 1982 and 1987, is suspected of his role in the Recruit scandal which involves a number of politicians, senior government officials and business leaders.

The opposition camp has refused to resume Diet deliberations on the 60.4 trillion yen national budget for fiscal 1989 unless Nakasone is summoned to the Diet.

The prosecution has so far arrested 12 people for involvement in the scandal, including Hiromasa Ezoe, the founder of the information business conglomerate Recruit Co., Hisashi Shinto, former chairman of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp., and Takashi Kato, former vice minister of labor.

Three of Nakasone's closest aides purchased a total 29,000 unlisted shares of Recruit Cosmos Co. and made huge profits by reselling them in 1986.

Nakasone has categorically denied any involvement in the scandal.

Takeshi Kurokawa, head of the 4.2 million-strong Sohyo, urged the workers to fight for wage increases enabling them to live without overtime work.

Rengo leader Toshifumi Tateyama, in his speech, urged the management to present wage offers understandable to workers.

The head of the 5.3 million-strong organization vowed efforts to win the spring wage drive and called on workers to prepare for the July election of the House of Councillors and the next general election of House of Representatives.

The rally passed a resolution demanding sharp wage increases, shorter working hours, deferring the imposition of the 3 percent consumption tax and a thorough probe into the Recruit bribery scandal.

Organized labor is scheduled to get wage offers from the management in the second week of April.

Sohyo, the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan, and Rengo, the Japanese private sector trade union confederation, are scheduled to merge in November.

Sohyo is formed mainly of public sector unions, while Rengo comprises all private sector ones.

Former Chairman Admits Bribery
OW2503133189 Tokyo KYODO in English 1242 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 25 (KYODO)—Hiromasa Ezoe, former chairman of Recruit Co., has admitted bribery charges involving Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. [NTT], informed sources said Saturday.

The sources said Ezoe, 52, offered 10,000 shares of his company's subsidiary to former NTT chairman Hisashi Shinto, 78, in return for the latter's support for Recruit's circuit leasing business.

Ezoe told investigators in detail how he offered the shares to Shinto, they said.

Shinto declined to be involved personally in the deal and ordered his former secretary Kozo Murata, 63, to handle the transfer of the shares, they said.

Ezoe and Shinto are under arrest on bribery charges in connection with the share trading scandal involving Recruit and its affiliates.

The sources said prosecutors plan to indict both Ezoe and Shinto on charges of violating NTT regulations Monday.

Ezoe telephoned Shinto in late September 1986 and asked him to purchase 10,000 shares of Recruit Cosmos Co., a real estate subsidiary of Recruit Co.

Shinto purchased the shares in the name of Murata through Hiroshi Kobayashi, former president of Recruit affiliate First Finance Co.

Ezoe told the investigators that Shinto had promised NTT's support for Recruit's circuit leasing business, the sources said.

The Recruit Cosmos shares produced a profit of 21 million yen, of which 9 million yen was transferred to Shinto's personal bank account while the remainder was placed in NTT's secret account managed by Yutaka Hayashi, chief assistant to Shinto, they said.

The sources said Shinto used the 9 million yen to purchase NTT shares while the 12 million yen was used for political donations and for the purchase of tickets of fund-raising parties held by politicians.

Takashi Kato, former vice labor minister, also under arrest in connection with the scandal, will be indicted Tuesday, they said.

LDP Leader Wants End to Probe

OW2603152289 Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Text] Tottori, March 26 KYODO—Shintaro Abe, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), on Sunday expressed his desire for an early completion of the current prosecutors' investigation into the Recruit bribery scandal.

He said he hopes that the prosecution will reach its conclusion on the scandal at the earliest date through strict and fair investigation.

Abe made the remarks in his speech at a fund-raising party sponsored by the LDP Tottori prefectural chapter in this western Japanese coastal city facing the Sea of Japan.

Abe admitted that the LDP may have been in power for too many years and that the party must correct what should be corrected and apologize to the nation for what should be apologized for.

At the same time, Abe expressed determination to tackle political reform.

Touching on the deadlocked Diet deliberations due to the opposition demand for Diet testimony by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone over his suspected role in the Recruit scandal, Abe accused the opposition camp of refusing Diet deliberations on the fiscal 1989 budget by using the demand for Nakasone's testimony as a "hostage."

Abe urged the opposition to agree that the Recruit scandal be debated at a special Diet committee instead of at the budget committee.

Meanwhile, another senior LDP officer, Masayoshi Ito, said the same day that when the prosecution declares the completion of its investigation into the Recruit scandal, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita should apologize to the people for the deep public distrust in politics which the scandal has caused.

Ito, chairman of the LDP executive Council, did not, however, refer to details on how the prime minister should make his apology to the people.

Ito made the remarks in a press conference in Toyama, Central Japan, where he was visiting to support the planned LDP candidate for the next lower house election.

Shinto, Two Others Indicted

OW2703090289 Tokyo KYODO in English 0649 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] Tokyo, March 27 KYODO—Hisashi Shinto, former chairman of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT), and two others were indicted by the Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office on bribery charges Monday, the prosecutors said.

Shinto, 78, was indicted for receiving bribes from Recruit Co., a business information conglomerate, in violation of the NTT Law.

Mongolia

Meeting on CEMA Cooperation Held With USSR

OW2603185489 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1721 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 25 March (MONTSAME)—A round-table meeting on the urgent problems of Mongolian-Soviet economic and scientific-technical cooperation in the CMEA framework, as well as on the tasks of the friendship societies of two countries was held here in Ulaanbaatar. The discussion, where scientists and economists of two countries participated, has been sponsored by the Central Council of the Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Society and the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Ties with Foreign Countries. Speaking at the meeting were D.Tsahilgaan, the chairman of the

Executive Committee of the Federation of Mongolian Societies for Peace and Friendship, presidium member of the Central Council of the Mongolian-Soviet Friendship Society; the head of the Soviet delegation professor of the Moscow Party High School, Doctor of Economic Sciences B.P. Krasnoglasov; and N. Sendenjav, first deputy chairman of the Commission on CMEA Problems under the MPR's Council of Ministers. Despite the existing difficulties, they said, the mutually beneficial cooperation of the two countries in the CMEA's framework is successfully developing. The Mongolian and Soviet scientists and economists exchanged opinions on improving the efficiency of cooperation within the framework of CMEA organization. Party, state and public officials as well as Mongolian and Soviet journalists took part in the round-table discussions.

Press Briefing Held on Upcoming Student Rally
OW2603154289 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English
1711 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, March 25 (MONTSAME)—A press conference dedicated to the forthcoming in April of the fourth rally of Mongolian students has been held at the MRYU [Mongolian Revolutionary Youth Union] Central Committee. D.D. Ashjamts, the chairman of the Mongolian Students' Union briefed on the union's activities. The Mongolian Students' Union (MSU) numbers in its ranks one thousand young people.

UNEN Interviews Security Minister
OW2103104889 Ulaanbaatar NOVOSTI MONGOLII
in Russian 6 Dec 89 p 2

["Renewal and Tasks of Public Security Organs"—NOVOSTI MONGOLII headline]

[Text] A regular MPRP [Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee Plenum will review new tasks of perfecting the party's organizational-party and ideological work. The MPRP Central Committee Politburo proposals, which were recently published for discussion, note that it is necessary to raise a strong barrier against disrespect for and distortion of the law, against attempts to evade the sphere of its validity by virtue of one's high official position or responsibility, to crack down on violations of the rights and lawful interests of citizens, and all manifestations of bureaucracy and red tape, and proceeding from this to expand the legal guarantees of a citizen's rights and freedoms. In connection with this we are publishing the responses of Lieutenant General A. Jamsranjab, MPR [Mongolian People's Republic] Minister of Public Security, to the questions of an UNEN correspondent.

[UNEN] What is the role of public security organs and their workers in the process of renewal and restructuring that is underway in the country?

[Jamsranjab] Questions on the role and place of public security organs in renewal and restructuring have been thoroughly discussed by all personnel and the basic concept that we worked out has already served as a guide in our activities for several months. If one asks what precisely do we want to restructure, then we ought to say that we intend to eliminate the old attitude toward labor, to affirm a genuinely proprietary relationship with our official responsibilities, and to see that everybody is responsible for the job assigned to him. Our personnel are beginning to understand that they cannot engage in a fruitless waste of time as occurred before renewal. We have already begun a creative search for new methods and style of work. These are the first steps toward renewal and restructuring.

We found ourselves imprisoned by formalism to such an extent that the working people could no longer sense our humane goal, which is to defend the rights and freedoms of every member of society in order to maintain public order in general. At the same time, "fire fighting" methods of making an uproar only after serious violations and crimes have occurred and have already been dealt with.

In implementing the task set by the 19th MPRP Congress, to "firmly and vigilantly stand in defense of the peaceful life and security of the people," the main substance of renewal and restructuring in our work lies in concentrating all efforts and attention on prevention.

We have still not developed a reliable system for preventing offenses among the population, be they political or criminal. It could be said that we are forfeiting a part of our patriotic pride and the peaceful and tranquil customs inherent to Mongolians. Our children have hardly reached an age where they can independently perceive the surrounding world when they are faced with films about war, terror, and violence and receive more of this kind of information from international life. At the same time, they are getting used to the idea that problems can be solved by force, not peace; that they can live by means other than labor. We end up with many people who do not work, and we have thieves, drunkards, and hooligans.

If we do not overcome the self-centered desire to be concerned only with ourselves with no regard for others and a callous disregard for the environment and property, if we do not eliminate social inertia and turn every worker of the Ministry of Public Security into an innovator and fighter, it is impossible to achieve changes in crime prevention. It is precisely in this matter that the time has come for us to revive the political fighters of the party and to show the masses what they look like. At the same time, special meetings with representatives of residential street khorons [districts] of the capital—held by the ministry's party committee to study the state of affairs of our personnel fulfilling their civic duty—lead to extremely disquieting conclusions.

Our fathers and grandfathers, who did not even know what kindergartens and schools were, never tolerated idleness and self-interest, educated themselves through labor, and manifested genuine humanity towards nature and everything living around them and remained spiritually rich despite the fact that they experienced material deprivation. The time has come to carry out revolutionary restructuring, closely uniting national educational traditions with renewal of ideological work.

How do we view the fact that, when the majority of our people live by the fruit of their labor and struggle, some people, and not such a small number at that, dress, eat, and live as well as others despite the fact that they do not work? It is hard to speak about social justice if we cannot prevent people from living on unearned income by economic means rather than administrative methods.

At a time when there is an extreme shortage of high-quality and modern clothes in our stores, a large part of our youth somehow manages to obtain and wear these clothes. The black market and speculation must be stopped by improving supply and services.

It is necessary to recognize the low effectiveness of using administrative methods to isolate criminals, alcoholics, and people who evade labor, and to gear reeducation to the needs of society and switch decisively to a method whereby the collective itself educates those who have made mistakes. Concern must be shown for the upbringing and fate of 15,000 children who for some period of time have become orphans or have been partly orphaned in families of individuals isolated from society. It should be noted in a self-critical way that along with some positive progress in the struggle against heavy drinking, speculation in vodka products and other negative manifestations have proliferated because not all organizations or people have been involved in the struggle against heavy drinking.

In addition to the efforts of the Ministry of Public Security in the struggle to prevent criminality, those of other organizations and their personnel are of primary significance as well. It is essential to provide work for all people who are able and to enlist them in cooperative or individual labor activity and to strengthen the principle of working for one's living. Every person must be personally responsible for educating himself, maintaining physical fitness, and improving his living conditions. I do not think it would be wrong to raise this requirement to a national level.

[UNEN] What could you say about the reasons for and consequences of the distortions and violations of human rights, democracy, and legality that were permitted more than once at various stages of development of our society? And how will their consequences be overcome?

[Jamsranjab] How could mistakes and distortions be avoided when during the period of various personality cults the boss's word was stronger than any law? There

are many laws in our state. But it has turned out that either they fail in all cases to reflect the will of the people or many people do not know or do not try to know those laws and are not used to defending or struggling for their rights. It often happens that a leader, instead of defending the rights and interests of the collective and of all its members, prefers to kowtow to higher authority. It has become almost customary for certain aymag or somon-level leaders to instruct militia workers to mobilize vehicles for various jobs. So the militia worker, using his official position, stops and enlists a driver who has not violated any traffic regulation and is going about his own affairs—which of course is a violation—and as a result the driver suffers. In the event that the driver files a complaint, only the militia worker turns out to be at fault. As far as the leader is concerned, he is never found to be at fault; moreover, he may be rewarded for being a good and exacting organizer of the job. Anything to fulfill the plan at any price. Administrative-command methods of work restrict democracy and lead to violations of human rights.

Only the elimination of the consequences of bureaucratism which alienates the people's state from the people, universal respect for and adherence to the laws and the principle of equality of all before the law can stop voluntarism and violations of legality.

[UNEN] How do the affirmation and development of the principles of glasnost and democracy tie in with the activities of public security organs?

[Jamsranjab] Until recently we confined ourselves to adopting orders and decisions and demanded their execution. As a result of the fact that the orders were not discussed in advance by corresponding organizations and officials and did not reflect their opinions, they were often not scientifically substantiated and were divorced from reality.

After we became accountable to the working people and collectives for the successes and shortcomings in our work and began to heed their views, the social activity of militia members increased and we began to receive more letters and information from citizens. It is more important now than ever for us to know how to work and to set a personal example just as well as we learn to criticize and talk. At the same time, it is essential that we respect and patiently hear out the opinions and proposals of the public and creatively learn the proper rules of discussion. The need has arisen to provide guarantees for citizens so that they will not suffer for raising objections and criticizing ministers and leaders who have the power to hire or fire people. In other words, just as the appointment of people to a position is confirmed by an organ of collective leadership, so in the case of dismissal they should be given the right to present and defend their views and actions.

The commanders of aymag, city, and district sections, border detachments, and corrective labor institutions have the right to independently decide on personnel and economic and financial issues. This is governed by the stipulation that, when adopted, these decisions take into consideration the proposals of the collective in an atmosphere of glasnost.

To bring the human factor into play, the principle of equal use of the public wealth is being changed, and provisions to ensure that people can "live well if they work well" are being introduced. A rule has been introduced to establish a limit on the monthly wages fund so that the income of workers are linked with the end results of fulfillment of obligations by collectives. It has been established that the difference in workers' wages can fluctuate within the range of 100 tugriks, and collectives have been given the right to lower or raise the wages of workers by 30 percent depending on the results of work.

A fund for the social development of collectives is being established at the expense of budgetary thrift and plan overfulfillment. The implementation of public control over the use of official vehicles by leaders, and cuts in this fund in cases where expenses for the use of automobiles are excessive, are an expression of the effectiveness of democracy and glasnost. Presently, even those organizations that demanded additional personnel have been making proposals about cutting them back.

The leadership of the Ministry of Public Security makes public and publishes in the press the numbers of duty telephones of various services, and is adopting measures to correct the normal work of reception offices for the working people.

Considerable work is being done in the system of the ministry to affirm proper standards of behavior in legal activities and a humane and charitable attitude toward people. The fact that mass media organs have begun to publish and broadcast materials on the achievements and shortcomings of militia activities and corrective institutions more frequently deserves approval. Why conceal the fact that at first some individuals were displeased by this? It is very important for us to inform the people about what we cannot do and where we do not have the resources to heed criticisms and proposals and to receive assistance and support. But we would like to see criticism of shortcomings and failures, permitted by certain workers, to be linked with defense of the militia's prestige. Unfortunately, criminal and adventurous elements have not yet been transformed in our society. After all, our militia workers have to meet them eye to eye and must fight them man to man. In the past two years alone, two fire fighters have died from burns received while fighting fires caused by certain irresponsible citizens, while another two militia members and two GAI [State Auto Inspectorate] traffic controllers lost their lives at the hands of drunken hooligans while performing their official duties. When faced with the lawful demands of a militiaman, certain individuals,

who have become unrestrained to the point of insolence, have resorted to threats that they will express in writing to the newspapers, will try to have him fired, or will deny him his means of existence. Obviously, workers of the militia—which is properly called the people's militia—will not retreat simply to save themselves, yet we ask journalists and readers to be more kind to them, to those who come to help, primarily at a difficult moment. After all, there are many among them who are experiencing great nervous stress as well as courageous people whose bodies bear the scars of bullet and knife wounds.

[UNEN] Many people have the impression that the Ministry of Public Security (the current name) and other law-keeping organs are organizations that are subjected to public criticism only on extremely rare occasions, that they work in an atmosphere of secrecy, require an oath of secrecy from their workers, account for their activities only to the People's Great Hural Presidium once or twice a year, are not subject to any other verification in their work, and at certain periods were even outside the control of not only party and state leaders but of all the people as well, as a result of which "blank spaces" appeared in our history and thinking. What do you think about this?

[Jamsranjab] Although I admit that open criticism from the public is still rare, I want to note that we are "on trial" quite often in a forum that is closed to the public.

It is believed that encroachments by the enemies of socialism are basically manifested in two ways: First of all, through armed aggression, against which we have an Army, and secondly through diversionary and subversive activities. The professional services engaged in a struggle with the latter are the organs of public security. Espionage and political, economic, and ideological diversions never end and are constantly being carried out on the clandestine front. In connection with this peculiarity, secrecy represents the most important principle in certain areas of the work of our organs. It is also true that our workers pledge an oath of secrecy. At the same time there are matters that are not subject to publicity. The responsibility for implementing control over preserving and defending state secrets lies with the Ministry of Public Security. However, the trend "to make everything secret" has become widespread not only in the Ministry of Public Security, but in other organizations as well and has led to a kind of information "famine." However, the safekeeping of secrets has not improved because "secret" has been stamped on documents or they have been locked up in armored safes. It even seems that the more you hide, the more curiosity you arouse in people. One cannot deny also that all of this gives rise to rumors that lead the masses astray and have a bad affect on their labor activities.

Hiding in the thirties and forties behind the need to maintain secrecy in its work, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (the old name) was no longer controlled by the people, which led to the most serious distortions of

legality and monstrous crimes. Today the Ministry of Public Security is directing its activities at rehabilitating honest citizens repressed during that period, at establishing reliable guarantees against permitting any kind of illegal encroachments on human rights in the future, and cooperates with corresponding organizations in this matter. MPRP Central Committee plenums held in 1956 and 1962 exposed the reasons for distortions of socialist legality and adopted measures to correct them.

According to archives, selfishness, envy, and a struggle for power that became widespread after the Manchu oppression did not disappear during the period of autonomy or the years of the National Revolution. Before the beginning of mass arrests and repressions in 1937, H. Choybalsan was simultaneously a member of the MPRP Central Committee Presidium, first deputy prime minister, minister of war, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, minister of internal affairs, adopted the title of marshal, and had himself referred to as "respected leader." Having concentrated enormous power in his hands, H. Choybalsan and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which he headed, began the mass annihilation of cadres who were trained by the revolution and in subsequent years spread the repressions to thousands of completely innocent citizens. Even people loyal to Choybalsan squealed on one another and were destroyed. So, D. Lubsansharab, party Central Committee secretary, and G. Tserendorj, minister of justice, who together with H. Choybalsan were members of the so-called "Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Commission" that was formed in accordance with the decisions of the Third Party Central Committee Plenum held in October 1937, were repressed.

In fact, it is essential to eliminate the "blank spots" in the history of our party and state. I have only mentioned one or two facts here relating to the period when H. Choybalsan was minister of internal affairs. There is no doubt that the party, in the spirit of the new thinking, will make a political assessment of the difficult periods in our history and of specific historic personalities. Naturally, this will be linked with the difficult foreign and internal situation existing at the time and with the contradictions and struggles of the day.

It happened that the state security organs, which were called on to be the party's political organizations and help it raise the working people's political vigilance, became the personal weapon of individuals who concentrated in their hands party and state power and, instead of providing security, turned into a great threat. As a result of the prolonged cultivation of an atmosphere of suspicion and of frightening people with counterrevolutionary and foreign spy bogies—the way one would scare them with mountain spirits—concern for oneself, anxiety, and silent humility have, for a long time, remained in the masses' consciousness. It is important, therefore, that the mistakes and distortions that took place should be thrown open to discussion and that reliable safeguards

be established for the future. One may express confidence that this will serve as an impetus to enhancing social activity and increasing the working people's belief in the party and the state. I will give you a real life example. Certain individuals not only worship some "sacred" rocks and trees, but make written requests to these objects, begging that they be "cured from some illness" or "be sent a life companion," and so forth. People often laugh when one cites examples like this in conversations. Meanwhile, it attests to the fact that we, workers of the party, state, and social organizations do not sufficiently work in direct contact with people, in the very midst of the masses. People still quite often telephone militia and request that foreigners be prevented from taking photos of certain unattractive events. On these occasions we used to detain the foreigner, expose his film, and let him go. Moreover, we did not even criticize ourselves for this improper behavior. Presently, however, we would regard such an event with criticism and recommend that citizens themselves improve sanitary, cultural, and social conditions. With everything that is new, before it acquires its own image, mistakes and omissions are unavoidable. Thus, people engaged in cooperative or individual labor activity permit themselves certain infringements. However we, as a rule, before resorting to administrative measures, try to help by rendering advice.

[UNEN] The Ministry of Public Security and some of our law protection agencies have on numerous occasions repressed totally innocent people, thus breaching socialist legality. Was there no force of any kind capable of opposing these distortions? Were public security workers ever subjected to repression or were there merely those who repressed others? Did the influence of Stalinism, which distorted laws and repressed honest citizens in the Soviet Union, find its reflection in the activity of our own security organs? And if so, why did it not become a subject for discussion and, moreover, why are monuments to Stalin still kept in places of honor in the capital?

[Jamsranjab] In the thirties and forties, thousands of totally innocent people were repressed as counterrevolutionaries and spies. Among them were women and 70-year-old people. One might ask: Were there no sensible people who saw these terrible breaches and distortions and opposed them? Indeed there were. For example, there still exists a letter dated 25 February 1935 which was written and addressed by T. Gibaapil, deputy chief of the Internal Guard Administration (since 1936 the Ministry of Internal Affairs) to secretaries of the Party Central Committee. It pointed out how groundless and far-fetched the so-called case of the J. Lhumbee "group" was and indicated the need to check and correct mistakes. However, T. Gibaapil himself was dragged into the Lhumbee case, banished, and later arrested and executed.

In 1937, H. Choybalsan personally threatened workers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs who refrained from participating in the mass "roundups" that they would be shot—and many of them were shot. Workers of the

Ministry of Internal Affairs who, to some extent, participated in distortions of the law were repressed themselves. Some of them were at Choybalsan's beck and call, others blindly trusted him, and still others were either subservient to him or acted under coercion. Not many of them remained alive.

Right up to the end of the forties there were only two revolutionary states in the world. The Soviet Union was and will remain the bulwark for victories of the Mongolian people's revolution, our development and progress.

Along with the positive ones there was also the influence of negative manifestations. The fact that Stalinism was an influence is attested to by the coincidence in time and methods of repression employed by H. Choybalsan in the MPR and by J.V. Stalin in the Soviet Union. The recollections of Y. Gnedin, who shared Stalinist deprivations in prison with the Mongolian Gelegiyn Has-Ochir, published in issue No 7 of the Soviet journal NOVYY MIR this year, is also testimony to the fact that we shared both suffering and grief. But it must be correctly understood that it was not the Soviet Union but Stalin who was the cause of this negative influence and who brought enormous suffering to the Soviet people themselves.

As far as monuments to Stalin are concerned, it should be noted that the initial party and government decisions on their creation have not been repealed. No organization or individual can engage in chaos or tyranny under the guise of deepening democracy. The principles of socialist pluralism are in effect at the stage preceding the adoption of decisions, but when a decision has been adopted by the majority it is important to maintain discipline in fulfilling them equally by not only the minority, but by everyone. There were occasions when leaflets, reading "Stalin—Enemy of the People," were posted on the monument to Stalin and oil paint was poured over it. These are not methods of renewal and restructuring. The truth must be found through open and free debates, and possibly by arguments and discussions. It is easier to destroy things than to create them. We have the bitter experience of the almost total destruction of historical and cultural treasures under the guise of a struggle against the yellow religion.

[UNEN] The very name of the organs of public security gives rise to the idea that some kind of threat exists to our society from which it should be protected. If methods of "repression" were used in society in the struggle against an individual or group of individuals who had committed a crime, then wouldn't an emphasis on education and upbringing mean a change and renewal of the methods of "dictatorship?"

[Jamsranjab] It is not all that easy to answer that question. First, let me say a few words about the organs of public security.

First of all, the organs of state security must prevent crimes against the state, give individuals who have committed these kinds of acts an opportunity to realize their guilt, and implement control over the preservation of state secrets. Recently a requirement has also arisen on taking part in preventing a disease like AIDS—which has become known as the "Plague of the 20th Century"—from penetrating into the country. It is also important to block the penetration of narcotics.

Secondly, border and internal troops are obliged to vigilantly guard, winter and summer, night and day, the more than 8,100 kilometers of borders of our country's extensive territory, to ensure maintenance of the border regime, and to inspect passengers and transport vehicles and let them through. It is our honorable task to pass the country to future generations with its borders inviolate. Despite the fact that our border troops are fulfilling the combat tasks of peace time in a worthy manner, instances in which illegal border violators penetrate the country, border guards are killed, and weapons are handled in a careless manner still occur. Although measures are being adopted following such incidents and violations, these decisions often become lost in the numerous bureaucratic departments and do not reach their corresponding destinations. Renewal and restructuring are being implemented extremely slowly.

Thirdly, our militia organs must perform numerous functions: fight crime, maintain public order, prevent fires, ensure traffic safety, issue passports, search for deserters and missing persons, and enforce the treatment of alcoholics. There has been a steady decrease in the number of crimes since 1985, however murder, rape, auto accidents, robberies, and other serious crimes are still common and this seriously disrupts the tranquility of the population. In the first 10 months of 1988 alone, 370 people died due to auto accidents, fires, and criminal acts, and damages worth more than 15 million tugriks were incurred.

Fourthly, corrective labor institutions must isolate from society individuals who have been sentenced to prison for committing a crime, and educate them through labor. Prisoners are given the opportunity to master popular skills and to improve their education while at the same time engaging in production, thereby defraying all expenses and giving considerable profit to the state. Despite the fact that nearly 2,000 people a year are released from places of confinement and considered to have been rehabilitated, every sixth of those freed commits another crime within the first 12 months. This indicates a qualitative shortcoming in the work of corrective labor institutions. Criminal activities and breakouts of individuals held in places of detention have also not been eliminated.

All of the aforementioned organs are linked by common activities and are united in the Ministry of Public Security. Maybe the word "security" itself is not entirely suitable.

There are no enemies or hostile forces in our country. But it would be naive to think that there are no people who could be used by hostile forces abroad. There is, after all, a handful of people who have fled to the capitalist countries or are demanding the right to go there. One does not hear much about the suspension or discontinuance of spying activities by special services of capitalist countries. On the contrary, they will unquestionably try to capitalize on glasnost.

In connection with the strengthening of the functions and responsibilities of hurals at all levels and the development and deepening of democracy and glasnost, a proposal is being worked out which envisages that, where possible, the staff of aymag and city public security departments be reorganized and reduced and that the militia service be placed under the leadership and control of hurals. Corresponding forms will be tried in civil aviation and in the cities of Nalayha and Baganuur. Preparations are being made to release some district commissioners from criminal investigation functions and to invest in them the responsibility of district militia inspectors working under the leadership and control of executive administrations.

Measures will be implemented to stop the growth and organizational strengthening of the staffs of the ministry's services, which has been occurring steadily for the past 20 years, to eliminate contiguous administrations and departments or to reduce their staffs, and to turn many military jobs, for which there is no need in peace time, into civilian ones.

Despite the fact that the number of criminal acts among officers and re-enlisted personnel of the ministry has decreased by a factor of 2 as compared to 1987 and there have been less violations of discipline and drunkenness, the educational work of commanders and political workers is still not reaching down to the specific destination, the people. This is manifested in cases of decreased vigilance on the part of some Chekists, the loss of secret documents and weapons, dishonest actions by certain militia workers, drunkenness, encroachments on the rights and freedoms of people, violations of the regime of border service by some border guards, collusion between some workers of corrective institutions and inmates leading to the use of their services and even to intimate relations with them, and in other forms. This is justifiably criticized by the public. There is no other recourse than to resort to a purge, as journalist B. Dashtseren correctly pointed out in the newspaper UNEN.

A high consciousness must be inculcated in our workers so that they do not violate the rights and freedoms of people and learn to defend them. Together with procuratorial organs, strict restrictions on cases of preliminary detainment of suspects during an investigation are being introduced. This will undoubtedly give rise to additional difficulties in solving crimes, but we are proceeding from the need to prevent infringements on people's rights for narrow departmental interests.

Although, relatively speaking, cases of detention, arrest, custody in sobering stations, and imprisonment by public security organs are decreasing, such cases will occur depending on the specific nature of the work. However, it is essential to give citizens advance knowledge about the internal rules of organs carrying out the functions of prevention and treatment of alcoholics, arrest, imprisonment, and MPR legislation, and to give citizens an opportunity to defend themselves and to receive defense of their rights.

North Korea

Reverend Mun Ik-hwan Arrives in Pyongyang
*SK2503104289 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT
25 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, advisor to the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" of South Korea, who had been invited by us for the convocation of a North-South political consultative meeting arrived in Pyongyang today with his entourage.

Rev. Mun and his entourage were accorded a cordial welcome overflowing with compatriotic sentiments at the airport.

They were met by Chong Chun-ki, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-chairman of the committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF); Yun Ki-pok, vice-chairman of the CPRF and head of the North side's delegation to the preliminary talks for the convocation of a nation-wide meeting; Choe Tok-sin, chairman of the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party and chairman of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association, who is vice-chairman of the CPRF; Yo Yon-ku, Presidium member of the Central Committee of the democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland; and leading functionaries of social and religious organisations.

Issues Statement

*SK2603070389 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1200 GMT 25 Mar 89*

[Text] On the afternoon of 25 March Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, advisor to the South Korean National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation [Chonminnyon], whom we invited for the convocation of the North-South political consultative meeting, arrived by air in Pyongyang with his entourage.

Warmly greeting Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage with compatriotic feeling at the airport were Comrade Chong Chun-ki, alternate member of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF]; Yun Ki-pok, vice-chairman of the CPRF and head of the North side's

delegation to the preliminary talks for the convocation of a nationwide meeting; Choe Tok-sin, chairman of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee, chairman of the Korean Chondoist Association Central Guidance Committee, and vice chairman of the CPRF; Yo Yon-ku, member of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland Central Committee Presidium; Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party Central Committee; Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Korean Christians Federation Central Committee; Pak Tae-ho, chairman of the Korean Buddhists Federation Central Committee; Chang Chae-chol, chairman of the Korean Roman Catholic Association Central Committee; Paek In-chun, chairman of the General Federation of Unions of Literature and Arts Central Committee; leading officials of working people's organizations; Christian pastors; and functionaries of the relevant sector.

Children presented bunches of flowers to Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage.

At the airport Rev. Mun Ik-hwan had a warm emotional meeting and shared warm feelings of blood and flesh with his relatives who had been separated from each other for decades.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan issued a statement in connection with his arrival in Pyongyang.

[Begin Mun Ik-hwan recording] Setting foot on the land of Pyongyang.... It was in April 1948 that Mr Kim Ku crossed the 38th Parallel in defiance of all obstacles and difficulties in order to prevent national division and the terrible tragedy of bloodshed between fellow countrymen in the North and South. A long period of 41 years has passed since then.

Following the road taken by Mr Kim Ku, I have today set foot on the land of Pyongyang, though I have come via Beijing instead of Panmunjom. I can hardly find the proper words to express the emotion overflowing my heart.

Leaving Seoul and heading for Pyongyang, Mr Kim Ku left us a poem: Be careful not to trample down the snow-covered road I tread, for the footprints I leave there will be a mark for those who come after me.

I keenly feel that I share Mr Kim Ku's feeling.

The burning desire of the entire fellow countrymen for reunification has reached the boiling point where it can no longer be left unheeded. Moreover, for nearly half a century, the masses in the South have fought against dictatorial forces and outside forces, which command enormous military and economic potential, in order to get rid of the sorrow and shame of division; and they are now charging toward the fateful point they must finally reach.

This is so because the unshakable belief that the problems of human rights and democratization, which have been cried for in the South, cannot be resolved ultimately without the reunification of the North and the South, and that this belief has gripped the hearts of everyone in the course of their prolonged struggle.

For quite some time I have cherished the ardent desire to visit Pyongyang and meet the respected President Kim Il-song and have a sincere and unreserved dialogue on the future of the nation with an open heart.

On the night of the last day of 1988, my mind crowded with thoughts, I suddenly fancied myself leaving on a trip to Pyongyang and wrote a poem describing myself rushing to the South Gate railway station in Seoul and urging the ticket girl to give me a train ticket to Pyongyang. I felt an irrepressible urge to make a trip to Pyongyang. And a miracle happened. The miracle was the news that President Kim Il-song invited me to Pyongyang in his New Year address this year. This was a really mysterious coincidence.

I am now an off-stage person, and I am not going to meet President Kim Il-song with any sort of background of authority or power. However, setting foot on the land of Pyongyang at this moment, I cannot help but be conscious of the eager eyes of the 40 million people in the South focused on me at this moment.

I cannot predict what result or success my visit to Pyongyang will bring; however, I cannot repress joy when I think of just the fact that I have come to this place which has been a divided land for me and when I look forward to a chance to meet with and embrace President Kim Il-song and converse with him about the beautiful dream of the nation's future.

Mr Kim Ku was shot dead with his earnest wish for reunification unrealized. But we must not repeat that failure; we must bring it to success without fail. I have come here with such a resolute determination.

Poet Yun Tong-chu was a friend of mine. He lost his life in prison during the Japanese imperialists' rule. He led his life with not a speck of shame under heaven. He never renounced his love for the nation. Chang Chun-ha, who was assassinated by the dictator after crying out that our supreme task is to achieve reunification and that reunification, whatever its form may be, is precisely goodness, was also one of my dear friends.

I am going to meet Comrade President Kim Il-song, identifying my mind with the mind of poet Yun Tong-chu who hoped he would have not a speck of shame under heaven and the mind of Chang Chun-ha who cried that reunification is goodness.

I hope my will and desire will be conveyed to the heart of each of the 60 million fellow countrymen in the North and the South. [end recording]

Feted by CPRF

SK2703130089 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2200 GMT 26 MAR 89

[Text] The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] arranged a banquet on 25 March in honor of Reverend Mun Ik-hwan of South Korea and his entourage, who are on a visit to the northern half of the Republic.

Invited to the banquet were Rev Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage.

Present there were CPRF Vice Chairman Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau; CPRF Vice Chairman Yun Ki-pok, who is also the head of the North side's delegation to the preliminary talks for convening a pan-national meeting; CPRF Vice Chairman Choe Tok-sin, chairman of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee and chairman of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association; Yo Yon-ku, member of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland Central Committee Presidium; Kim Yong-chun, vice chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party; (Kang Yong-sop), chairman of the Korean Christian Federation Central Committee; Pak Tae-ho, chairman of the Korean Buddhist Federation Central Committee; (Chang Kye-chol), chairman of the Korean Catholic Association Central Committee; Paek In-chun, chairman of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea Central Committee; and responsible functionaries of labor organizations and christian pastors.

CPRF Vice Chairman Chong Chun-ki, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee, spoke at the banquet.

First, he warmly welcomed Mr Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage on behalf of the CPRF.

After saying that Mr Mun Ik-hwan is well known to our people as an outstanding democratic personage, who, in South Korea, has long devoted himself to democracy and the peaceful reunification of the country, he said that, in particular, Mr Mun Ik-hwan supported and responded to the proposal for convening a political consultative meeting of leadership-level people in the North and the South, personally advanced by the respected and beloved leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and that, in this way, he well expressed his will for the reunification of the fatherland, a cherished national desire.

After stressing that we are very glad that by acting on his will for reunification, Mr Mun Ik-hwan willingly accepted our invitation and came to Pyongyang, he went on to say: Rev Mun Ik-hwan's visit to Pyongyang is a meaningful one that shows that even though our nation is divided into the North and the South, the desires for reunification form one trend and that no one can block this trend. His is also a significant visit that will make an

important contribution to promoting national reconciliation and unity between the North and South and accelerating the peaceful reunification of the country.

He again paid respect to Mr Mun's resolute decision and will to make a trip to the North in defiance of all difficulties and expressed the hope of frankly exchanging views on the question of national reunification with each other and finding a reasonable way for national salvation and reunification on the occasion of the meeting arranged with much efforts.

Vice Chairman Chong Chun-ki went on to say:

There is no reason for the people in the North and South who hope for reunification to antagonize and confront each other, and there is no reason for them to fail to pool their will. The people in the North and South, transcending differences in ideas, systems, and religion, can achieve national unity and can create the new history of reunification after bringing an end to the tragedy of division. As the respected and beloved leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song put forth during his New Year's speech this year, the basic trend of the development of the situation in our country is also firmly moving toward the reunification of the fatherland. We earnestly hope that we will yield fine fruits at our meeting and talks with Mr Mun Ik-hwan, who has visited Pyongyang at such a time, and thus give good news to the nation.

After expressing his hope that Mr Mun and his entourage spend happy and fruitful days in the historic Pyongyang, which he and his entourage visited ahead of other people, Vice Chairman Chong Chun-ki proposed a toast to the health and happiness of the respected Rev Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage.

Rev Mun Ik-hwan spoke next.

First, he said that he was very pleased to see his younger brother, whom he had thought dead, living as a member of this society. Referring to the South Korean people's desire for reunification which is growing stronger than ever before, he said: Exhibitions of pictures of Mt Paektu and Mt Kumgang have recently taken place in different parts of South Korea. They kindled a fierce flame in the desire for reunification. Mt Paektu is our mountain. The scenic, beautiful Mt Kumgang is also our mountain. Why can we not visit them? This is what people think now. In the South, in over 40 years, nearly 50 years, time and again youths, students, and workers sacrifice their youth and life for the nation. A little while ago I spoke with a foreign newspaper reporter. He said that no young people in other parts of the world sacrifice themselves for the nation. He asked me to explain how this can happen in the South. Then, I asked him what he thought of it. He said: There are many people living on earth. However, no young people more earnestly desire democracy than those in the South. He asked why the young people in the South, in particular, earnestly desire democracy. Then, I said: The reason is simple. Because

the young people in the South cannot tolerate division any longer and, because they must bring an end to division, they warmly desire to achieve the reunification of the fatherland. But, there are forces that oppose their will. Therefore, the young people in the South are well aware that unless they regain the sovereignty of this land from those forces, they will not be able to bring an end to the tragedy of our nation. This is why they desire democracy more fervently than any other people in the world. The fervor for democracy is very warm, indeed. This very fervor is what led me to be here today.

Rev Mun Ik-hwan went on to say: My mother is 95 years old. Some time ago, the Christians of the North and the South made up their mind to celebrate 1995 as a year of reunification. So I told my mother to live on until 1995, when she will be 100 years old. The country will be reunified by then, I added. We must reunify the country without fail by that time. We should not allow this tragedy of division, this shame of division, and national humiliation to exist for more than 50 years. While encouraging my mother with such words, I am making efforts for her to live on until she turns 100 years old. When I recently gave lectures to university students, I called on the students who entered the university in 1989 to receive a diploma in a reunified country, not in a divided country. Then, the students warmly applauded. According to the New Year's opinion poll published by the Korean Broadcasting System in the beginning of this year, more than 40 percent said that the North-South problem would be settled smoothly in 1989, and more than 40 percent said that the North-South problem would be settled very well. This means that no fewer than 85 percent said that the North-South problem would be settled smoothly and very well in 1989. This is what our fellow countrymen in the South think. In this way, the spirit of reunification is burning and growing.

He stressed: All our fellow countrymen in the North and South should not fail to dismiss the ardent desire for reunification—which has been aroused—a new time of reunification that is maturing, and, to this end, solve problems from the stand of promoting the higher self, giving up the ego. Such a stand prompted me to be here.

President Kim Il-song invited me. Therefore, I am going to have an open-hearted dialogue, not pay lip-service to dialogue, opening my heart to you before my departure. I came here with the idea of having an open-hearted discussion about the questions of what hurdles are lying in the way of reunification, how we can remove them together, and how we can solve the reunification question. I think it is high time to make maximum efforts to put an end to the nearly 50 year-long division and reunify the nation, thereby making it a forerunner of liberation for the oppressed and laboring masses of the Third World. I am present here with the conviction that after discarding ideas such as which side has an advantage over the other, which side is superior to the other, and which side will win over the other, we must solve our

reunification question from the stand of jointly achieving a great victory for the sake of all our fellow countrymen. If I am received by President Kim Il-song, who invited me, and have a conversation to my heart's content with him and thereby make a contribution, small as it may be, to solving the national problem, there will be nothing more gratifying than this. I hope that all of you present here will continuously encourage me to realize the great cause of bringing forth a new world where the North and the South is reunified into one and of doing away with the tragedy of the nearly 50 year-long division and the disgrace of division.

So said Rev Mun Ik-hwan.

The banquet proceeded in an atmosphere overflowing with compatriotic feelings.

The attendants at the banquet proposed a toast to the prosperity of our nation's generations to come and the independent, peaceful reunification of the country; for the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; and for the long life and good health of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Attends Easter Service

SK2603111689 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1105 GMT 26 Mar 89*

[Text] *Pyongyang March 26 (KCNA)*— Rev. Mun Ik-hwan of South Korea and his entourage participated in the Easter service at the Pongsu Church in Pyongyang on the morning of March 26.

The Pongsu Church was crowded with churchmen in Pyongyang.

When Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage entered the church, the churchmen welcomed them with warm applause.

Present on the occasion together with them were Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Christians Federation, and 10 odd Korean pastors in the United States, now on a visit to the homeland.

Rev. Yi Song-pong, chief pastor of the Pongsu Church, preached a sermon on the subject "Triumphant Easter" in the Easter service.

In the service the churchmen offered prayers for the peaceful reunification of the country.

The churchmen held a communion service in their worship on the Easter.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and his entourage attended the service.

After the service, Rev. Mun Ik-hwan spoke amid the warm applause of the churchmen.

He said he regarded the reunification of the nation as the resurrection of the nation and he was very pleased that he came to Pyongyang in the hopes of the resurrection of the nation and attended the easter service.

He solemnly sang a song of resurrection which he said is sung often by South Koreans.

After singing the song, he said that his voice has become coarse which was originally clear because he continuously cried out for reunification in recent years. He added that although his voice which God granted to him became coarse, God will not reprove him because it was due to his outcries for reunification.

His speech was interrupted by a storm of applause in the hall.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan sang a hymn composed by himself in prison, touching the heartstring of the churchmen.

South Blocks North-South Writers Meeting

Talks Should Be Held

SK2503153389 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 1517 GMT 25 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—Head of a delegation of the North side to preliminary contact to arrange a meeting of writers in the North and the South and abroad Choe Yong-hwa, first vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea, today had an interview with a KCNA reporter in connection with preliminary contact slated for March 27 at Panmunjom for the convocation of a meeting of writers in the North and the South and abroad.

The meeting of writers from the North and the South will occasion an epochal turn in the uniform development of national literature and the realisation of the common cause of the nation's peaceful reunification, he said, and continued:

We writers in the northern half of Korea are making sincere efforts for the convocation of a meeting of writers in the North and the South and abroad, eagerly looking forward to the day.

The South Korean writers reportedly formed a preparatory committee to promote talks between writers in the North and the South, announced the composition of a delegation to be sent to preliminary contact for a meeting of writers in the North and the South and abroad, declared that it would be in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at 10:00 on March 27 and are making positive efforts to realise a historical meeting of writers from the North and the South.

Choe Yong-hwa expressed surging indignation at the fact that on March 24 the puppet Ministry of Culture and Information openly announced that it "would not allow" preliminary contact slated for March 27.

He said that since the projected meeting at Panmunjom is a matter upon which writers in the North and the South have already agreed, our delegation members of the North side will appear in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at 10:00 on March 27 and stressed that the preliminary contact should be realized without fail.

He stressed that if the South Korean authorities block the meeting of writers in the North and the South by force as they barred preliminary contact for the convocation of a nationwide meeting and North-South student talks at the point of bayonets, they will be labelled as traitors to the nation and the enemy of reunification and will face a stern judgement of history.

South Writers Leave for Panmunjom

SK2703054989 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0542 GMT 27 Mar 89*

[Text] Pyongyang March 27 (KCNA)—Four members of the South Korean Council of Writers of National Literature left the office in Mapo District, Seoul, at 08:10 for Panmunjom to participate in the preliminary contact for a conference of writers in the North and the South and overseas which had been planned to be held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom at ten this morning, a South Korean radio reported.

Ko Un, head of the South side delegation to the preliminary contact, issued a statement prior to the departure for Panmunjom. The statement denounces the "authorities' ban on the meeting of writers of the North and the South" as an act seeking a permanent division. "The meeting of writers of the North and the South is aimed at realising non-governmental exchange between the North and the South and paving the way of making the people play a leading role in peaceful reunification," it declares.

Meeting Blocked

SK2703095789 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0500 GMT 27 Mar 89*

[Text] A preliminary contact between the North and South delegations, scheduled to be held today in Panmunjom amid the great interest and expectation of all fellow countrymen and writers in the North, in the South, and abroad to arrange talks among writers from the North, the South, and abroad, has not been realized since the members of the South side's delegation did not take place due to the obstructive maneuvers of the South Korean persons in authority.

As has already been reported, the Conference of Writers for National Literature of South Korea issued on 4 March an open letter proposing to hold a preliminary contact for talks among writers in the North, the South, and abroad.

Upon hearing this news, the Central Committee of the Korean Writers' Union, in response to the proposal of the South Korea's Conference of Writers for National Literature, announced on 16 March an open letter to their South Korean counterpart and the members of our side's delegation to attend a preliminary contact.

In the wake of this announcement of the Korean Writers' Union Central Committee, on 22 March the South Korea's Conference of Writers for National Literature formed a 5-man delegation led by poet Ko Un and issued a statement that it would send its delegation to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom at 1000 today. Consequently, the schedule for the preliminary contact was set.

Today, reporters of many press organs and Chongnyon reporters from our side came to Panmunjom to cover the preliminary contact between the North and South delegations for arranging talks among writers from the North, the South, and abroad way before the preliminary contact was scheduled to begin.

At 1000 sharp, the members of our side's delegation—head of the delegation Choe Yong-hwa, first vice chairman of the Korean Writers' Union Central Committee; delegate Cho Chong-ho, vice chairman in charge of the reunification literature of the Korean Workers' Union Central Committee; delegate Pak Se-ok, chief of the Korean Literary Production Company poetry room; delegate Nam Tae-hyon, novelist of the company; and delegate O Yong-chae, poet of the company—entered the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

However, the South side's delegation failed to appear at the contact site even after the appointed time.

Our side's delegates waited for the touching moment of a meeting with the South side's delegates. But, even though about an hour had passed, the South side's delegates did not come to the contact site.

As has already been reported, South Korea's Conference of Writers for National Literature issued a statement that it would attend the preliminary contact in Panmunjom and requested the South Korean authorities and the U.S. Embassy to render cooperation for entry into Panmunjom.

However, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean military, fascist clique, who blocked with bayonets the 10 June and the 15 August North-South student talks last year and preliminary talks for a pan-national congress and North-South student talks this year, have officially

declared that they will not allow the South side's delegation to enter Panmunjom and blocked the meeting between writers in the North and the South with bayonets. Thus, the South side's delegation could not come to the contact site.

Holding a meeting between writers in the North and the South will serve as a significant occasion that will greatly contribute to developing the national literature and to carrying out the cause of the country's reunification.

This notwithstanding, the South Korean military, fascist clique, with the support of the U.S. imperialists, has barred a historic meeting between writers in the North and the South. This is a never-to-be-tolerated antidialogue, antinational, and antireunification crime.

With nothing can the South Korean authorities block the future path of the South Korean writers, who aspire for independence, democracy, and reunification. Neither can they break the will and desire of the writers in the North and the South who try to develop the national literature in a unified manner and to expedite the peaceful reunification of the country.

Report on Talks Failure

SK2703105689 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Panmunjom March 27 (KCNA)—The preliminary contact of delegates of the North and the South for a conference of writers of the North, the South and overseas due today at Panmunjom failed to be held as the members of the South side delegation could not come out due to the obstructive moves of the South Korean authorities.

Reporters of mass media of the North and journalists from the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan arrived at Panmunjom far earlier than the appointed time for the preliminary contact to cover it.

At ten sharp, the delegation of the North side entered the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom, the delegation with Choe Yong-hwa, first vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea, as the head and with vice-chairman of the C.C., Korean Writers' Union in charge of reunification literature Cho Chong-ho, chief of the poetry section of the Korean literary Production Company Pak Se-ok, novelist Nam Tae-hyon and poet O Yong-chae of the company as members.

Although the appointed time had passed, the delegates of the South side did not appear at the contact venue.

The delegates of the North side waited for an emotion-charged meeting with the delegates of the South side.

Even two hours after the appointed time, the delegates of the South side did not appear in the conference room.

As was reported the South Korean Council of Writers of National Literature stated that they would come out to the preliminary contact at Panmunjom and added that they had asked the South Korean authorities and the U.S. Embassy in Seoul to offer help for the entry into Panmunjom.

But, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean fascist clique, who had blocked at the point of the bayonet the June 10 and August 15 North-South student talks last year and the preliminary talks for the convocation of a nationwide meeting and North-South student talks this year, officially announced that they would not allow the delegates of the South side to enter Panmunjom and blocked the meeting of writers of the North and the South at the point of the bayonet. As a result, the delegates of the South side could not come out to the contact venue.

The ban of the South Korean military fascist clique backed by the U.S. imperialists on the historic meeting and contact of writers in the North and the South is a never-to-be condoned criminal act against dialogue, the nation and reunification.

With nothing can the South Korean authorities block the way of the South Korean writers desirous of independence, democracy and reunification and break the will and desire of the writers of the North and the South for a uniform development of national literature and for promotion of the peaceful reunification of the country.

Head of the delegation of the North side Choe Yong-hwa issued a statement in the name of the delegation of the North side at Panmunjom on the failure of the preliminary contact due to the South Korean fascist clique's obstructive moves.

Looking southward, Poets Pak Se-ok and O Yong-chae recited their impromptu poems "Convey My Wish" and "The Day Will Come" which express their disappointment at the failure of their meeting with friends of the South and their determination to arrange the meeting at any cost.

North Delegation Issues Statement

SK2703112189 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 0500 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Statement by Choe Yong-hwa, head of the North side's delegation to the preliminary contacts for convening a meeting of writers in the North, the South, and abroad, on 27 March in Panmunjom—read by announcer]

[Text] In Panmunjom, where the pains of the divided fatherland are present even in a handful of earth and where the misfortunes of the divided nation are cast over the small sky above, another painful thing has happened

today. As is already known, preliminary contacts for a conference of writers in the North, in the South, and abroad—which had been placed on the agenda as a result of a proposal that the Conference of Writers for National Literature of South Korea advanced out of a noble desire to contribute to developing the national literature and achieving the reunification of the country and as a result of a response that our Korean Writers Union Central Committee made to this proposal—were scheduled to be held today at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom. However, the brothers and sisters of the South, who very ardently called on us to come and meet them, failed to come to the venue of the talks, and only we, who responded to the proposal, saying that we would go, came to Panmunjom. But, we had to return without meeting them after having anxiously waited for them.

Feeling at heart the situation of the writers of the South who could not come to the meeting place even though they had invited us, we, who cannot but turn back without realizing a meeting between the writers of the North and South, which had been prepared after a long lapse of time amid the entire nation's great interest and expectations, again keenly feel the tragedy of national division for which blood brothers and sisters cannot meet each other in their own country and land.

Our writers of the North and South are jointly suffering the pains of national division. We are the writers of the indivisible nation, who have always jointly worried over the future destinies of the nation even though we live separated. How many days and nights have our writers of the North and South writhed over the separated mountains, fields, and sky of this land; the national identity, which is gradually disappearing; and the tragedy of the divided parents and brothers and sisters? And how many articles have they written?

For our writers of the North and South—who have so earnestly desired the reunification of the country and the nation—to meet each other here in Panmunjom in step with the nation's grand march toward peaceful reunification is the demand and call of national history. Nevertheless, the persons in authority in South Korea are resolutely blocking a Panmunjom meeting between the writers of the North and South. This is an antidialogue, antireunification, and antinational crime.

After aborting a North-South national music festival and frustrating North-South student talks and preliminary talks for a pannational congress, again today, the authorities in South Korea committed the crime of blocking a meeting between the writers of the North and South. The entire nation cannot but express surging anger and hate over this.

The South Korean authorities hindered a Panmunjom meeting between the writers of the North and South using guns and bayonets. Recognizing that this is another challenge to the earnest desire of the entire nation, which

hopes for national unity and the peaceful reunification of the country, and that it is the most vicious crime against dialogue and reunification, the North side's delegation to preliminary contacts for a conference of writers in the North, in the South, and abroad sternly denounces it with surging national anger.

A conference of writers in the North, in the South, and abroad, which will contribute to achieving the peaceful reunification of the country and developing national literature, must be realized without fail under any circumstances. For the writers of the North and South to have a dialogue in an effort to achieve the reunification of the fatherland and to develop national literature is our right which no one can deprive us of and is our will which nothing can annihilate.

No ferocious tyrant in any era and any history could blunt the conscience and will of the writers. It is the conscience and intellect of the writers that rose up in defiance of suppression and darkness, and it is the conscientious and patriotic songs of the writers that could not be bound by imprisonment and shackles.

If, while babbling about a single channel of dialogue, the South Korean authorities block to the end a meeting between writers in the North and South, who aspire for national unity and reunification, they will leave an indelible blot in national history and will receive the entire nation's stern judgment and punishment. A Panmunjom meeting between writers in the North and South must be realized without fail, and a conference of writers in the North, in the South, and abroad, which the entire nation is interested in, must be held under any circumstances. We will make patient efforts to the end to realize a Panmunjom meeting between the writers of the North and South. Under circumstances in which the South Korean authorities are now blocking our dialogue, even if the Conference of Writers for National Literature of South Korea advances a new proposal to arrange a conference of writers in the North, in the South, and abroad, we are willing to affirmatively respond to it. We express our confidence that the Conference of Writers for National Literature of South Korea and writers overseas who earnestly desire the reunification of the fatherland will struggle to the end to crush the divisionists' antidialogue maneuvers and to successfully hold a conference of writers from the North, the South, and abroad. In addition, we express our expectations that progressive writers in the world will extend active support and encouragement to and solidarity with our efforts to convene a conference of writers from the North, the South, and abroad. The day when seeds sown in our hearts will bud, blossom, and bear fruit will arrive without fail. [Dated] 27 March 1989, Panmunjom

South Ban on Contact With North Condemned
SK2703044989 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0007 GMT 26 Mar 89

[NODONG SINMUN 26 March commentary: "A Desperate Attempt by the Anticommunist Fascist Elements Who Are Bereft of Reason"]

[Text] A few days ago, South Korean puppets' so-called public prosecutor-general called a meeting of prosecutors and public safety officials and issued a so-called guide-

line on the use of the prosecution right. Needless to say, this is a suppressive directive to ruthlessly suppress the struggle of the patriotic democratic forces who call for independence, democracy, and reunification and the struggle of the workers for the right to existence and democracy branding them collective violence, communist-sympathizing, and illegal acts to benefit the enemy.

While a bloody warlike atmosphere is inspired in South Korea at present by the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise, the No Tae-u military fascist clique has issued an all-out suppressive directive against the patriotic democratic forces in a series of conferences such as the meeting of heads of public safety authorities and the meeting of police bureau chiefs of cities and provinces, provoking in South Korea a state of undeclared martial law.

Suppressive armed forces are located all over South Korea and are searching, investigating, arresting, and whisking away people everywhere, taking many innocent residents to prison. They have distributed M-16 automatic rifles even to police boxes, thus enabling the police to use arms at any time and to perpetrate bloody suppressive offensive acts against the democratic forces even more relentlessly. Therefore, the blood-thirsty situation comparable to that of the 17 May fascist violence and the massive Kwangju massacre are taking place in South Korea again today.

Traitor No Tae-u prolonged the interim appraisal, his campaign promise, thus assuming an indecisive attitude. He suddenly said that he would conduct the appraisal, then a few days later stated that he would not do it under the pretext of political unrest. This reveals that he had no intention of conducting an interim appraisal from the outset, and all he had in mind was to use it as an opportunity to conduct a massive fascist offensive.

The puppets randomly wielded bloodthirsty swords and turned the situation into a perilous one, stating that the forces attempting to overthrow the system schemed for social upheaval by taking advantage of the interim appraisal. The intention of the puppets' raving about social upheaval is clear. The military fascist dictatorship is seriously threatened by the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and antifascist struggle for democratization which are heating up in an unprecedented fashion in South Korea. The No Tae-u ring is attempting to find a way out of this crisis by means of anticommunist fascist frenzy, recklessly running wild, losing their reason under the pretext of social upheaval.

Not to be overlooked is that the puppet clique raved that it will punish those who attempted to contact the North by the application of the law. The aspiration for the reunification of the country is heightened more than ever before in South Korea at present, and the people of all walks of life, including the students, the off-stage opposition organizations, religionists, and cultural and artist organizations, maintain that they should hold dialogue with us. Listed presently are the dialogues of various

channels such as the North-South student talks to discuss the issue of participation in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, the preliminary talks for the convocation of the pannational meeting, the preliminary contact for the meeting of the writers of the North and South and the compatriots overseas.

The outburst and violence of the No Tae-u ring are aimed at blocking North-South contact branding it as illegal, and they are the vicious challenge to the South Korean people aspiring for national reconciliation, unity, and the anti-U.S. cause for independence and reunification, and an intolerable act of treachery to the nation.

This reveals that the fascist ring's babbling about exchange and free visits between the North and the South is completely false propaganda and that all they have is the filthy scheme to monopolize North-South contact and dialogue and abuse it for splittist purposes.

The National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation, in a press conference it held on 24 March, said that all the dictatorial regimes in South Korea were brought to an end whenever they suppressed the democratic forces, branding them left-leaning, communist-sympathizing, violent forces, and called upon the No Tae-u ring to immediately withdraw the suppressive directive on the use of firearms.

If the fascist clique continues resorting to a rule by guns and bayonets as it did before, it will only deepen the crisis in its rule. Awaiting the military dictators rejected by the popular masses is nothing less than destruction.

Meeting of Parties, Organizations in Pyongyang
SK2703132989 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1200 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] With the ardent aspirations of all fellow countrymen to expedite peace in the country and its peaceful reunification as early as possible rising higher in an extraordinary way, a joint meeting of the parties and organizations in the northern half of the Republic was held in Pyongyang today.

In connection with the fact that interest in and zeal for dialogue have recently increased among a wide range of people in the North and the South and that figures and organizations from all walks of life have actively demanded dialogue and contact with each other, the agenda item "On Developing North-South Dialogue in a Multifaceted Manner" was brought up and discussed at the joint meeting. And a joint statement of all political parties and organizations was adopted.

Joint Statement Released

SK2703133089 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 1200 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Joint statement on "Developing North-South Dialogue in a Multifaceted Manner" adopted at a joint meeting of all political parties and organizations of the DPRK, held in Pyongyang on 27 March—read by announcer]

[Text] With the situation at home and abroad changing in favor of our country's independent and peaceful reunification with each passing day, interest in and zeal for dialogue have recently grown, more than ever before, among a wide range of people in the North and the South.

Figures and organizations of all walks of life in the North and the South have turned out to demand dialogue and contact with each other and have set forth many beneficial proposals that can contribute to peace in the country and its reunification. As a result, multichannelled civilian-level dialogue, besides preliminary talks for high-level political and military talks, have been scheduled, and dialogue between figures and organizations from various strata is expected to be vigorously held in various areas in the future.

Considering this to reflect the earnest aspirations of all fellow countrymen for reunification and their patriotic will, we welcome it as a positive development.

Reunifying the fatherland is not work that a certain class, stratum, or authorities should do, but a nationwide cause, which the entire nation should pool strength to accomplish.

To achieve the cause of national reunification, a wide range of people from all walks of life, as well as persons in authority, should actively participate in the cause. To this end, they should meet each other and hold dialogues in favor of reunification.

Regretably, however, the South Korean authorities, under the pretext of a single channel for dialogue, have openly suppressed the efforts of figures and organizations from various strata in South Korea to hold dialogue with the North and have checked these efforts, interfering in them in various ways.

Trying to stifle with bayonets the patriotic will of the people to contribute to the cause of national reunification instead of actively encouraging it, can never be viewed as a right act of those with national conscience.

Having violently blocked the righteous act of youths and students for North-South student talks last year, the South Korean authorities are ignoring the demands of the people and blocking the efforts of figures and organizations from various strata for dialogue still today, when the spirit of national reunification is growing with each passing day. For the future of the nation, this, indeed, cannot but be a deplorable matter.

Developing civilian-level dialogue among people from all walks of life in the North and the South in a multifaceted manner is not something that causes any division or confusion but an excellent way to promote national unity and reunification.

There is no reason why the people in the North and the South should distrust, misunderstand, and confront each other. If people meet and hold dialogue with each other, they can easily communicate with each other, pool their will, and furthermore, turn the atmosphere of confrontation into that of unity and easily solve problems that are not solved between authorities.

To open the door of dialogue between people is precisely to reconnect the ruptured veins of the nation and open the door of reunification.

A wider range of people from all walks of life should more actively take part in the dialogue for reunification to successfully open the future path of reunification, in circumstances in which the United States and the South Korean authorities are trying to take advantage of dialogue in order to perpetuate confrontation and division while undisguisedly seeking the policy of two Koreas.

Accepting the active efforts for dialogue by people from all walks of life in South Korea, and out of a desire to hasten the independent, peaceful reunification of the country through the united strength of the entire nation, various political parties and social organizations in the northern half of the Republic declare at home and abroad the following joint stand on developing multichanneled citizen-level dialogues between the North and South.

1. The reunification of the country must be peacefully realized without fail through dialogues and negotiations between the North and South. To this end, North-South dialogues must be held between the authorities of each side and must also be widely held on a private level. Differences in ideas, religion, political views, and affiliation; whether one is wealthy or not; what one does for a living; or what one did in the past must not be obstacles to North-South dialogues and negotiations.
2. North-South dialogues must be held so as to contribute to peace in the country and reunification and common national interests. Dialogues which promote confrontation and mistrust between the North and South or which seeks two Koreas must be rejected.
3. As main forces in reunification, Korean citizens have the right to contact and hold dialogues with one another. Proposals for autonomous citizen-level dialogues to discuss peace in the country and her reunification will be encouraged and accepted, and, thus, dialogues among workers, peasants, youths and students, intellectuals, women, religious personages, and national financiers in South Korea and abroad and their organizations will be positively promoted. Proposals for private-level economic ventures, joint development, joint research, joint

investment, and joint overseas ventures—proposals promoting common national interests in nonpolitical sectors—will be encouraged and accepted.

4. Individual personages in South Korea and abroad will be allowed visit the northern half of the Republic any time to discuss the nation's matters of common concern and will be welcomed.

5. Measures will be taken to satisfactorily guarantee citizen-level dialogues. Proposals for citizen-level dialogues will be confirmed and realized through Panmunjom, direct exchanges of letters, or public broadcasts. Citizen-level dialogues can be held in Panmunjom, Pyongyang, or Seoul, or in a third country. Measures will be taken to guarantee visits by and the safety of representatives of parties and organizations and individual personages who visit the northern half of the Republic for contacts and dialogues, and all conveniences will be guaranteed.

[Signed] The Workers Party of Korea, the Korean Social Democratic Party, the Chondoist Chongu Party, the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland Central Committee, the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea, the Korean Democratic Women's Union, the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea, the Korean Journalists Union, the Korean Students Committee, the Consultative Council of Former South Korean Politicians in the North for the Promotion of Peaceful Reunification, the Korean Christian Union, the Korean Catholic Association, the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association, the Korean Buddhist Union, the Korean Democratic Lawyers Association, the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea, the Korean Architects Union, the Korean Environmental Protection League, the Korean Medical Science Association, the Korean National Peace Committee, and the Korean Antinuclear and Peace Committee

[Dated] 27 March 1989 Pyongyang

CPRF Agrees to Chonminnyon Proposal on Talks
SK2503042989 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] in an open letter yesterday expressed full consent with pleasure to a recent renewed proposal of the South Korean National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy [Chonminnyon] to open preliminary talks for a nation-wide meeting in Panmunjom at 3 p.m. on April 7 in defiance of all difficulties.

The open letter says:

The people of all strata in the North and the South have a legitimate right to participate in debates and dialogue for reunification and there is no ground for anyone to meddle in the exercise of this right.

We consider that all Koreans in the North and the South and abroad should convene a nation-wide meeting at an early date through joint efforts and struggle and bring about a new phase of peaceful reunification.

Struggle will bring us together in Panmunjom.

We reassure you that we will make all efforts possible to realize a nation-wide meeting at any cost through a contact between delegates of the North and the South.

Acceptance Letter Read

SK2503072189 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2200 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Letter from the DPRK Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) to the South Korean National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation (Chonminnyon) issued on 24 March in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] issued an open letter to the National Coalition of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation [Chonminnyon] in South Korea in connection with a Chonminnyon counterproposal for preliminary talks on the convocation of a pannational meeting. The open letter reads:

Seoul,

To Chonminnyon:

We are very sorry that our historic meeting, which we had planned in order to sit together on 1 March with warm compatriotic feelings and ardent desire for reunification, has not been realized. Moreover, we cannot help but be indignant about the deplorable antinational act of the South Korean persons in authority of illegally whisking away the delegates of Chonminnyon, which is waging a devoted struggle for the unity and reunification of the nation, and of booking them on charges of violating the National Security Law.

Although the splittists within and without are now attempting to block the way to dialogue for reunification, the powerful trend of the reunification movement containing the will of the entire nation cannot be checked by anyone.

We are glad that your organization has recently counter-proposed, despite all the difficulties, that preliminary talks for the pannational meeting be held in Panmunjom at 1500 on 7 April, and we express our full agreement to it.

The reunification of the fatherland is a pannational cause in the interest of the entire nation, and its master is all the countrymen in the North and the South. The

people of all walks of life in the North and the South have the due right to participate in the discussion and dialogue for reunification, and no one should interfere with their exercise of this right.

We maintain that all Korean compatriots in the North, South, and overseas should convene the pannational meeting at an early date through their common efforts and struggle and bring forth a new turning point for peaceful reunification. The struggle will bring forth our meeting in Panmunjom.

We reconfirm once again that we will make every possible effort to realize the pannational meeting by all means through the meeting of delegates of the North and the South.

[Signed] The CPRF

[Dated] 24 March 1989, Pyongyang.

Urges Delivery of Chonminnyon Letter

SK2503033089 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0300 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Message to the South Korean Ministry of National Unification from the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, CPRF, sent via the direct Red Cross telephone line on 25 March—read by announcer]

[Text] To the Ministry of National Unification:

On 15 March, the National Council of the Movement for Democracy and the Nation [Chonminnyon] of South Korea reportedly requested the Ministry of National Unification of your side to convey a letter, addressed to the chairman of the CPRF, to our side.

However, it has been 10 days since then, and we still have not received the letter from Chonminnyon.

Therefore, we urge the prompt delivery of the letter from your side's Chonminnyon to our side.

[Signed] CPRF

[Dated] 25 March 1989

Students' Struggle Headquarters Formed

SK2503154689 *Pyongyang KCNA in English* 1526 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—Some 1,000 students of 38 universities and colleges in Seoul gathered at Yonsei University this afternoon and held an inaugural meeting of the Headquarters of the Students' struggle for the resignation of the "government" of No Tae-u, the main culprit of the Kwangju massacre and the "scandals of the Fifth Republic," according to a report.

In a declaration of struggle adopted at the meeting the "Seoul Regional Federation of General Student Councils" (Sochongnyon) said that the traitor No Tae-u's indefinite postponement of "interim evaluation" means that he "admitted himself non-confidence" and declared that it would conduct a struggle for non-confidence and resignation of the No Tae-u "government" in solidarity with all the democratic forces including the National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy irrespective of the postponement of "interim evaluation."

The declaration demanded the immediate resignation of the No Tae-u "Government" and the arrest of Chon Tu-hwan, Yi Sun-cha, Chong Ho-yong, Pak Chun-pyong, Yi Won-cho and others, main culprits of the Kwangju massacre and the "scandals of the Fifth Republic."

Meanwhile, the fascist clique concentrically posted over 4,000 policemen uniform and plain clothes of some 30 companies around Yonsei University to prevent students from marching out of campus after the meeting.

Churches in South Denounce Police Repression
SK2503104889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1043 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—The Human Rights Committee of the Christian Church Council of South Korea reportedly issued a statement Friday denouncing the No Tae-u fascist clique's new repressive order to use weapons in the crackdown on people.

"We will resolutely fight against any violence of the military dictators," said the statement bitterly condemning the March 22 order to use firearms as "a threat to the people and proclamation of a virtual martial law."

It charged that the puppet clique has now gone so far as to threaten the use of weapons in the brutal crackdown on the workers and farmers demanding vital rights.

"The churches will buckle down to activities to defend human rights and safeguard the vital rights of the people against military violence with the determination of missionaries," declared the statement.

Crackdown on South Workers Denounced
SK2403153389 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1522 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 24 (KCNA)—Workers of railway enterprises in Pyongyang held meetings today and bitterly denounced the brutal crackdown on South Korean workers by the fascist clique.

The workers at the meeting held at the Kim Chong-tae Electric Locomotive Complex hit at the fascist action of the No Tae-u military fascist clique in forcibly putting down a strike of the trade union members of the Seoul

Subway Corp. with the mobilization of more than 7,000 combat police, a fire-engine and a bulldozer and walking away and detaining some 2,800 trade union members.

They said that the suppression by the puppet clique was part of the wholesale fascist offensive to put down the daily growing spirit of independence, democracy and reunification and prolong the military fascist dictatorship in South Korea.

Noting that the puppet clique, branding the struggle of the democratic forces as "leftist pro-communism", openly declared that it would suppress them with violence by using even firearms, they said that it is last-ditch efforts of those who are faced with a crisis.

Addressing the meeting at the west Pyongyang Locomotive Corps, the engine drivers stated that no elementary democratic demand and right to existence of the South Korean workers can be realised as long as the military fascist dictatorship continues in South Korea. The South Korean workers should undauntedly carry on the struggle they have started and expand and develop it to an anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle, they urged.

South's Economy Called 'Vulnerable'
SK2503151889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—The South Korean economy reveals its vulnerability as a colonial dependent economy with each passing day.

The vulnerability of the South Korean economy as a colonial export-oriented economy is, firstly, that the economy depends entirely upon the resources and raw materials from foreign countries, not upon domestic natural resources and raw materials.

South Korea now imports more than 70 percent of resources for production in industries, construction and transport, nearly 100 percent of ferrous and non-ferrous minerals and 100 percent of magnesia clinker and other non-metal minerals.

In agriculture and stock-breeding South Korea relies wholly upon the agriculture of the United States and the rate of self-sufficiency in food has dropped every year to 27 percent in 1986.

Now that the United States and other capitalist countries regard food, raw materials and power resources as a lever for plunder, this is a fatal weakpoint for the export-oriented economy of South Korea which is staking its fate on processing for export.

In actuality, the prices of synthetic rubber, crude rubber and chemical resin which are imported jumped up to 41.3 percent per ton, 22.1 percent and 79 percent respectively in the past two years. This was one of the reasons why 91 shoe-making and allied enterprises in Pusan alone went bankrupt.

The vulnerability of the South Korean economy, secondly, finds expression in its too high rate of dependence on export.

The dependence of the South Korean economy on export rose from 2.4 percent in 1962 to 36.5 percent in 1986.

The dependence of the South Korean manufacturing industries on export is higher than other industries. As of 1986, the dependence on export of cotton textile, ship-building and toy-making industries was 88 percent, 88.5 percent and 86.3 percent respectively. 80-97 percent of electronic goods assembled in South Korea are for sale at foreign markets.

The weakpoint of the South Korean economy in structure demands steady expansion of overseas markets.

The capitalist world including the United States and Japan is forcing South Korea to open its market totally, while constantly building higher customs and non-customs barriers against South Korea's export goods.

Worse still, the United States is barring the puppets from advancing into the domain which it regards as an obstacle to the expansion of its export markets. This is tantamount to wringing the windpipe of the export-oriented economy of South Korea.

Another vulnerability of the South Korean economy finds expression in the fact that it is based on cheap labour and as it is a colonial dependent economy, it is affected by the economic crisis which is now sweeping the capitalist world.

The appreciation of South Korean money won is proof of this.

This alone brings a huge amount of loss to South Korea.

The export of the Hugang company in Ponchon industrial zone in Kwangju increased more than 30 percent last year above 1987, but the amount of loss caused by the fluctuations of the currency exchange rate amounted to 80 million won, resulting in further increase of deficit.

The South Korean puppets are advertising the "growth" of the economy and trying to push ahead with the "economic policy towards the North". This is a last-ditch effort to cover up the vulnerability of the South Korean economy and find a way out of the catastrophic economic depression.

U.S. Arms Reinforcement in South Denounced
SK2603084889 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841 GMT
26 Mar 89

["U.S. Imperialists Must Immediately Stop Reinforcing Aggression Forces in South Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a signed article denouncing the U.S. imperialists for consolidating South Korea as their military base.

The article says:

The U.S. imperialists have since 1984 reinforced large aggression forces including nuclear, chemical and communications units in South Korea allegedly for "increase of war capacity" and "qualitative improvement through the modernization of the military equipment."

They have also increased the number of U.S. troops in South Korea to nearly 50,000, are now building new airforce bases in Cheju Island and Sosan in South Chungchong Province and dynamically promoting the plan of stockpiling reserve supplies of war worth 2,000 million dollars as part of the extensive reinforcement of the aggression forces.

There have been deployed in South Korea more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons.

The U.S. imperialists are continuously shipping into South Korea "Lance" missiles, neutron bombs called "devilish weapon of the 20th century," "F-16" fighter bombers, "M-198" long-range nuclear guns, nuclear bombs and vehicles.

They introduced binary chemical weapons in South Korea after they discussed "independent chemical warfare capacity" of South Korea at an "annual Security Council meeting" with the South Korean puppets in May 1985.

They have built about ten toxic gas plants in South Korea to produce large quantities of chemical weapons and toxic gas bombs.

Their moves to keep South Korea as their colony and military base have placed the Korean peninsula in a very dangerous situation which may lead to the outbreak of nuclear war and chemical war any moment.

If they persistently reinforce the aggression forces in South Korea and take the line of the adventure of aggressive war, going against the demand of the times and the desire of the people, they will meet with bitter denunciation and punishment by the Korean and the world people.

NODONG SINMUN Condemns 'Team Spirit'

Calls It 'Invasion' 'Rehearsal'

SK2503045789 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT*
25 Mar 89

["Dangerous Offensive Operation Rehearsal for Northward Invasion"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary says that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets propagandized that the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises were a rehearsal for "defense" and recently advertised that the exercises were concluded, but this is a trick to conceal the criminal fact that the war game was a dangerous offensive operation rehearsal for northward invasion.

The commentary says:

The "Team Spirit" joint war exercises are an adventurous offensive operation rehearsal and a test nuclear war for making a preemptive strike at the DPRK and expanding it into a total war. This is proved by the full-fledged active exercise staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets from March 14 with the mobilisation of regular armed forces and even reserve forces more than 200,000 strong. It cites, exposing this, the large-scale joint landing operation and the large-scale river-crossing operation held in the area of the Namhan river on March 21.

Pointing to their clamour about "many successes" in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises these days, it says: This means that they admitted themselves that the remaining thing is only to ignite a fuse of war.

The news analyst says:

With no deceptive scheme can the U.S. imperialists and the puppets cover up the aggressive and offensive nature of the "Team Spirit" war gamble and shirk the heavy responsibility for leading the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war and laying grave obstacles in the way of dialogue and reunification.

There is not the slightest change in the heinous plot of the U.S. imperialists to realise at any cost their wild ambition for aggression on the whole of Korea which they had failed to realize in the 1950s.

The Korean people are watching with heightened vigilance the dangerous acts of the U.S. imperialists and the puppets who are running recklessly holding a fireball over the nuclear powder magazine, and are making full preparations to cope with any provocation on their part.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continue the provocative war racket against us, they will face greater curse and denunciation of the whole nation and the world's peace-loving forces.

On Exercise Continuation

SK2703055789 *Pyongyang KCNA in English 0536 GMT*
27 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 27 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are trying to mislead public opinion by reporting as if the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises ended after a stage of attack operation.

NODONG SINMUN today denounces this as a crafty and cunning trick to slacken our alertness and invade the North by surprise and as another intolerable mockery and challenge to the people and public opinion at home and abroad who oppose war and hope for detente and peace.

In a signed commentary the paper says:

Dark clouds are still hanging over South Korea and the danger of a new war has not been dispelled from the Korean peninsula.

The huge aggression armed forces and military equipment mobilized in the "Team Spirit 89" joint military exercises, largest preliminary war, test nuclear war in history, from the U.S. mainland and U.S. military bases in the Pacific remain in the operation area and the U.S. imperialist aggression troops occupying South Korea and the South Korean puppet Army are watching for a chance of attacking with their guns levelled at our republic.

Worse still, the U.S. imperialist aggressors do not conceal that the "Team Spirit" war game may develop into an undeclared war. They actually attacked other country while reporting as if their military exercises closed. This fact makes it incumbent upon us to heighten vigilance against them.

The U.S. imperialists have the bad habit of invading other country and nation when it is slackening.

With nothing can the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets conceal the criminal nature of the "Team Spirit" war game.

Our people and People's Army officers and men are keenly watching with heightened revolutionary vigilance the anti-communist fascist moves and war manoeuvres in South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets should look straight at the reality, give up their adventurous war provocation manoeuvres and take all the aggression armed forces out of South Korea without delay.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets Foreign Officials

Angolan President Arrives

SK2703051789 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0507 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 27 (KCNA)—Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President of Angola, on March 23 met Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, who was a special envoy of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The special envoy conveyed regards and a personal letter of President Kim Il-song to the Angolan President.

And he conveyed regards of Comrade Kim Chong-il to the president.

The president noted that the friendly relations between Angola and Korea are developing favourably.

Saying that the proposal for national reunification advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a very just one, he declared: The Angolan party and government support it.

Meets With Congolese President

SK2503042489 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—Congolese President Denis Sassou Nguesso met chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly Yang Hyong-sop, a special envoy of President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on March 21.

The envoy conveyed regards and a personal letter of President Kim Il-song to the Congolese president.

He also conveyed greetings of Comrade Kim Chong-il to the president.

The president said that he was rejoiced as over his own over the achievements made by the Korean people under the wise leadership of the great Comrade Kim Il-song.

The Congolese Party of Labour and Government will always support the Korean people in the struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country, he stressed.

Youth Fest Committee Meets in Pyongyang

SK2503104689 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—The 4th meeting of the permanent commission of the international preparatory committee for the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students [WFYS] was held in Pyongyang over March 20-23. The meeting heard informations on work of the bureaux of the permanent commission and

on preparations for the festival on national, regional and international scale and discussed the issues concerning the organization of the 4th meeting of the international preparatory committee for the festival, the contents of a report on the work of the permanent commission to be submitted to the 4th meeting of the international preparatory committee for the festival, the detailed program of the 13th WFYS and various other problems concerning preparations for the festival.

The meeting discussed with success the agenda items and adopted relevant documents.

North Hamgyong Considered 'Key Industrial Base'

SK2503100689 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 25 (KCNA)—North Hamgyong Province situated in the northeastern part of Korea has turned into a powerful key industrial base.

Its gross industrial output value has grown 6.5 times in the past 30 years, of which steel 17.2 times, pig iron 7.2 times, rolled steel 16.2 times, coal 2.5 times and electricity 38.8 percent.

Agriculture, fisheries and light industry have also made a speedy progress. During the time grain production has nearly doubled and the number of the tractors per 100 hectares of farm land gone up 9.4 times.

The province, where backwardness and poverty prevailed in the past, today boasts a powerful key industrial base and light and fishing industrial bases.

The great leader President Kim Il-song visited the province in March 1959 and acquainted himself with the work in the province as a whole for nearly 20 days before giving programmatic teachings.

The working people in the province, upholding the militant tasks given by him, carried out the capacity expansion projects of the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex, the Musan mining complex, the Hambuk ship-building complex, the Chongjin machine tool factory and other key branches of industries and built new industrial establishments.

In different parts of the province light industrial production bases have been built up and dwelling houses for 7,000-8,000 households built each year.

Eastern, Western Hanminnyon Councils Formed

SK2703052589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0512 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 27 (KCNA)—The American eastern and western councils of "The Union of Overseas South Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification" ("Hanminnyon") were inaugurated in New York some time ago, according to the Koreans' newspaper "MINJOK SIBO."

Dr. No Kwang-uk was elected chairman of the eastern council and Kim Un-ha chairman of the western council.

The councils published a statement supporting the convocation of a nationwide meeting for a peaceful reunification of the country proposed by the "National Alliance of the Movement for the Nation and Democracy" ("Chonminnyon") of South Korea.

Chuche System Brings Dead People Back to Life
SK2703104589 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1019 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] Pyongyang March 27 (KCNA)—The heart resuscitation section of the Korean Red Cross General Hospital over the last ten years and more carried out upwards of 20,000 cases of treatment for the resuscitation of hearts, bringing back to life a great many patients who had been declared dead.

In this period ambulance cars have covered a total distance of 400,000 kilometers to carry patients.

In Korea where human lives are most valued, an airplane flies or a car runs hundreds of ri and all ultramodern medical appliances are set in motion unstintedly for a single case.

A graphic example is the treatment of Yu Taek-song who resides in Potonggang district, Pyongyang. He was miraculously brought back to life three hours after his heart stopped beating for acute myocardial infraction.

A medical collective composed of well-known doctors treated him day and night at his home. Professors and doctors of heart diseases and many competent physicians with rich clinical experiences in this domain held consultations several dozen times.

Modern medical appliances and all high-priced efficacious medicaments were applied and other necessary conditions for the patient were ensured and famous doctors pooled their wisdom and showed all sincerity, saving the patient from the death's jaw at last.

The benefits he received from the state in the difficult resuscitating treatment on the spot, 80-day hospital care, 30-day convalescence at a sanatorium amount to 60,000 won.

All the patients who have been saved by more than 20,000 cases of heart resuscitating treatment at the hospital did not pay a penny till they recovered their health.

The completely free medical assistance system in force in Korea has opened a new era in which medical science truly serves humanity.

"It is the chuche idea that rescued me," says Yu Taek-song. His words mean that the genuine popular public health system was established in Korea by the chuche

idea, the idea which makes everything serve people, and under this beneficial system could his heart beat again three hours after it stopped.

In Korea, today, the life expectancy has been lengthened by 36 years after liberation thanks to the enhancement of the people's standards of material and cultural living, improvement of work conditions and establishment of the popular public health system.

South Korea

Reactions to Reverend Mun's Trip to North

Government Calls It 'Unhelpful'
SK2703032989 Seoul YONHAP in English 0323 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—National Unification Minister Yi Hong-ku said Monday that the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's presence in North Korea was "unhelpful to the government's reunification policy."

"I think it is regrettable that the Rev. Mun acted in his own way, disregarding the law and regulations, and that his secret visit to Pyongyang will not help our reunification policy," Yi said.

The government did not know the dissident clergyman planned to visit the North prior to his arrival in Pyongyang Saturday, confirmed Sunday by reporters in Tokyo, he said.

Any visit to North Korea without prior consultation with the government confuses and undermines inter-Korean relations, Yi said, noting that official talks are scheduled for April 12 to arrange top-level talks.

"Rev. Mun's remarks in Pyongyang that he will fight against the dictatorship and outside power could strengthen the North's position in inter-Korean relations," he said.

Mun's comparison of his visit with independence leader Kim Ku's in 1948 is not persuasive. Kim's visit to Pyongyang to negotiate a coalition government was made before the South Korean Government was proclaimed, Yi said.

"We know the party is three, including Mun and Chong Kyong-rno, a Korean living in Japan. But we cannot confirm that novelist Hwang Sok-yong is the third person," he said.

Trip Will Not Affect Policy
SK2703065189 Seoul YONHAP in English 0631 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—South Korea's Government, promising legal action against the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan if he returns from his surprise visit to Pyongyang,

decided Sunday that the leading dissident's trip to the communist capital should not be allowed to affect the government's unification and "Northern" policies.

The government discussed matters concerning Mun's stealthy travel to the North in a meeting which was attended by ministers of home affairs, justice, culture-information and unification and the director of the National Security Planning agency.

"Details of what action the government will take will be determined from the results of interrogations of Mun and others involved in his visit to Pyongyang," a government official said Monday.

"Mun's action constitutes an arbitrary violation of the law since he didn't get prior approval from the government, which is the sole, legitimate channel of inter-Korea contact," said the official, who declined to be identified.

Mun's visit to Pyongyang differs from Chong Chu-young's recent trip because he failed to seek prior official permission as the founder of the Hyundai Business Group did, he said.

"A close study of what Mun said in his arrival speech at Pyongyang indicates that he had preparatory contacts," he said.

He further expressed concern that the Presbyterian preacher's Easter visit may have "some bad implications" on the South's unification policy and relations between Seoul and Pyongyang.

The South Korean Government will continue its open policy toward North Korea, but will restrict "arbitrary" visits by individuals or social organizations.

Seoul contends that Pyongyang continues to pursue a subversive plot of isolating the democratic forces in the South.

Visit Violates Security Law

SK2603030389 Seoul YONHAP in English 0229 GMT
26 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea's prominent dissident leader Rev. Mun Ik-hwan arrived in Pyongyang Saturday, a Seoul government spokesman said Sunday.

Quoting a North Korean radio broadcast, the spokesman said the 71-year-old Rev. Mun and his entourage flew into the North Korean capital city Saturday afternoon via Beijing.

Choe Pyong-po, spokesman for the National Unification Board, announced early Sunday that North Korea's official radio broadcast reported in the Saturday evening that Rev. Mun came to Pyongyang to meet with Kim Il-sung.

The North Korean broadcast, however, did not specify on the members of his entourage, according to Choe.

Choe said that Rev. Mun had no prior consultation with the South Korean Government authorities and that the government has not allowed him to visit North Korea.

Choe added that the government is thus confirming the truth.

Mun's wife Pak Yong-kil, 69, told reporters that he left for Japan aboard a United Air flight at 2:40 p.m. Monday through Seoul's Kimpo International Airport.

"I did not know, however, that he was going to North Korea," she said. "He told me prior to his departure that he would like to visit northern part of China, his birth place, to pay tribute to the graves of his grandfather and grandmother and meet with his relatives."

She said Rev. Mun called home twice on Monday and Thursday and told her that he will return home on April 14. Rev. Mun carried with him a passport issued in 1988 and supposed to expire on April 14, she said.

Mrs. Mun disclosed that Mun received an invitation in late January from North Korean Politburo member Ho Tam through the National Unification Board. Ho said in the letter of invitation that he would like to meet with Rev. Mun to discuss the reunification of South and North Korea, according to Mrs. Mun.

Rev. Mun is an adviser to the National Alliance of Democratic Movements (Chonminnyon), the largest political dissident organization in South Korea.

Rev. Mun's younger brother, Tong-hwan, who is a vice president of the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, said his brother told him that he was leaving for Japan at the invitation of his friend living in Tokyo who promised to sponsor a Pyongyang visit for him.

The Korean friend of Rev. Mun, Chong Pom-mo, had worked together with Mun at the United Nations command in Japan during the 1950-53 Korean War, Tong-hwan said quoting his brother.

Most of the Chonminnyon leaders said they knew about Rev. Mun's visit to Pyongyang several days before his departure because he had visited the Chonminnyon office and disclosed his intention to visit North Korea.

One of the Chonminnyon leaders said Rev. Mun first expressed hope to visit Pyongyang when he visited the Chonminnyon office on March 17.

Yi Pu-yong, co-chairman of the Chonminnyon, said he had suggested to Rev. Mun at Chonminnyon's March 19 anti-government rally to wait for the time being because the timing of the visit did not seem good at the present situation.

Yi said Rev. Mun had indicated that he will push ahead with his plan to visit North Korea saying that he was "just responding to the invitation of the North Korean authorities."

Rev. Pak Hyong-kyu, another prominent dissident leader and an adviser to the Chonminnyon, also said that he heard Chonminnyon leaders suggest to Rev. Mun not to go to North Korea when Rev. Mun dropped by the Chonminnyon office and asked them, "How about for me to go to North Korea?"

Rev. Pak said Rev. Mun must have gone to Pyongyang alone, disclosing that Rev. Mun and four other dissident and religious leaders, including Stephen Cardinal Kim Su-hwan, the top leaders of South Korea's Roman Catholic Church, received letters of invitation from North Korea's Ho Tam in late February and in early March to visit Pyongyang.

Meanwhile, the prosecution said that Rev. Mun's visit to Pyongyang, if it is true, is a clear violation of the National Security Law and that he will be punished under the law.

"Rev. Mun's visit to Pyongyang, which obtained no prior approval of the government, is against the National Security Law. Even though he went to North Korea to attend the North Korea-proposed 'inter-Korean political talks,' he will be punished in accordance to the law because the talks have not been formally recognized by the government," a prosecutor said.

The prosecutor added that Rev. Mun's visit to North Korea is different from the case of Chong Chu-yong, honorary chairman of Hyundai Business Group, who obtained the government approval in advance.

Chong visited North Korea in late January and discussed joint venture business projects with North Korean authorities.

North Korean leader Kim Il-song, in his New Year address in January, had proposed to hold "North-South political negotiation talks" in Pyongyang with leaders of South Korea's political parties and social organizations claiming that the number of "democratic figures" who recognize that his reunification formula calling for a confederal republic is increasing in the South.

Kim had invited seven of South Korea's political and religious leaders—heads of four political parties, Stephen Cardinal Kim, dissident leader Pak Ki-wan, and Rev. Mun.

Rev. Mun had been jailed four times under the previous authoritarian governments for his dissident activities.

Opposition Reacts to Trip

SK2703031789 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—A leading dissident's unheralded arrival in Pyongyang, where he attended an Easter service, has given the South Korean political community a major headache since President No Tae-u called off a promised midterm appraisal.

Ruling and opposition parties were unanimous in reacting to the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's surprise visit to the citadel of communism, saying that because he had not received prior approval from the government it would cause confusion over South Korea's reunification policy.

They also expressed concern that Mun's action is highly likely to ignite unrest in April and May.

Opposition parties are more concerned that Mun's illegal trip to Pyongyang may strengthen the voice of what they call the ultra-right and weaken action to deal with the wrongdoings of former President Chon Tu-hwan.

The ruling party and the government are using the visit as an opportunity to demand stern measures against what they call left-leaning radicals.

"Rev. Mun had to go through lawful procedures like prior government approval as long as the law exists. Individual contact with North Korean authorities does not help the nation's reunification efforts, but only adds to the confusion," ruling party spokesman Pak Hui-tae said Monday.

The leading opposition party said it is desirable for Mun to visit North Korea to discuss ending the division of the nation in light of the reunification policy pursued by the government since last year.

"However, it would be regrettable were it true that Mun went to North Korea without going through legal procedures like prior government approval," Party for Peace and Democracy spokesman Yi Sang-su said.

The Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] said Mun's visit to the communist capital has embarrassed the people and created confusion in efforts for national reunification regardless of his true intention.

Spokesman Yi In-che said the RDP can't understand why the government did not know about Mun's journey to Pyongyang via Tokyo and Beijing.

The conservative New Democratic Republican Party said visiting Pyongyang without prior approval was not helpful for reunification.

Kim Tae-chung 'Somewhat' Positive

SK2703125189 Seoul YONHAP in English 1242 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung, president of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), Monday responded somewhat positively to the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's surprise visit to Pyongyang.

"It is my fundamental opinion that inter-Korean people from various walks of life are desired to exchange as many visits as possible to contribute to peace and reconciliation between the South and the North," Kim said.

Unheralded arrival in Pyongyang on Saturday by Mun, a leading dissident, has given Seoul's political community a major headache.

Attending a luncheon meeting here with the foreign diplomatic corps and foreign correspondents, however, the major opposition party leader added that "it seems to me that it would have been better if the Rev. Mun had had prior consultations on his visit with the government."

"I understand it as the government position on inter-Korean relations since the July 7 declaration by President No Tae-u last year that Seoul positively seeks exchanges with Pyongyang in every possible field, taking the North not as an enemy but as a partner," Kim said.

"It is much regrettable that the government showed a 'retreating' attitude from the presidential declaration by refusing to give a green light to proposals by dissident organizations to visit North Korea."

Commenting on the military situation in this part of the world, the PPD president said he is opposed to the existence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, adding the operational command in ROK-U.S. military relations should be transferred to a Korean.

However, Kim said the U.S. Forces stationed in Korea should not leave the country until complete peace is settled on the peninsula.

Dissidents 'Shocked'

SK2703061189 Seoul YONHAP in English 0555 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—Dissidents have been shocked by the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan's secret trip to North Korea and the South Korean Government is strongly hinting that the clergyman faces arrest if he returns home.

Saying they understand that Mun was motivated by his ardent desire for the reunification of the fatherland, dissident groups have nevertheless condemned the trip as "improper."

He is stirring up trouble just as the government is getting ready to take stern action against "left-leaning forces," giving President No Tae-u an ideal pretext for suppressing anti-government movements, they said Monday.

But they saved their harshest criticisms for the government, complaining it is blocking their attempts to contact North Korea for discussions on reunification.

Yi Pu-yong, a co-chairman of the National Alliance for Democratic Movement, South Korea's most powerful dissident group, said he heard from Mun of his plan to visit the North and tried to persuade him to postpone it until the situation improved.

Yi said Mun rejected his idea, saying, "my visit is just a response to an invitation from Pyongyang."

Mun was invited, along with six others, by North Korean leader Kim Il-sung to attend a South-North political consultative conference.

The six are President No Tae-u, the leaders of the three opposition parties, Stephen Cardinal Kim Su-hwan and dissident Paek Ki-wan.

No's invitation was addressed not to the president of South Korea but to the head of the Democratic Justice Party.

Rep. Kim Kwang-il, planning coordination director of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party, voiced doubts about the benefits of Mun's stealthy visit to the communist capital.

"I am not sure Mun's trip will help promote discussion of reunification. I am concerned that it may mislead the people on the reunification debate."

South Korea has banned contact with the North for more than 40 years, but the government granted business tycoon Chong Chu-yong permission to visit the North in January for discussions on economic exchanges as part of moves to improve relations with Pyongyang.

Mun should be prudent because his actions could consolidate hardliners' position within the government and lend credence to their calls for stern action against dissident groups, they said.

If Mun is arrested for violating the National Security Law, which bans visits to North Korea, it could bring a head-on confrontation with dissident groups, analysts say.

Dissidents claim it would be unfair of the government to punish Mun after it allowed Chong to travel in the North.

But the government says Chong's visit was approved in advance, while Mun had no discussion prior to his trip.

Reverend Mun Profiled

SK2703060589 Seoul YONHAP in English 0547 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—The Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, whose surprise arrival in Pyongyang on Saturday has touched off a furor in South Korea, has long been a respected leader of the fight against authoritarian regimes and more recently an outspoken and ardent proponent of anti-Americanism.

The 71-year-old Protestant preacher's first anti-government activity was to join a dissident movement in 1974 to protest against President Pak Chong-hui's "revitalizing reforms."

The revitalizing reforms, which banned all free debate on constitutional amendment, were criticized by dissidents as a plot by Pak to extend his rule indefinitely.

The first of Mun's four prison stays came in 1976, when he was convicted for his involvement in a dissident group's "declaration for national salvation" on March 1 that year. He was released on parole at the end of the next year only to be returned to prison when the court repealed its leniency measure in October 1978. Mun was eventually released in October 1979, after Pak's assassination.

He was arrested and jailed for the third time in 1980 on charges of violating martial law. And again in May 1986, when he was convicted of having masterminded a violent anti-government demonstration in Incheon.

Mun was named an adviser to the National Alliance for a Democratic Movement when the powerful umbrella organization of dissident groups was inaugurated in January.

Born in Manchuria in 1918, Mun studied theology in Japan before moving to Seoul in 1943, two years before the nation's liberation from Japanese colonial rule. He continued his theology studies in the United States at Princeton Theological Seminary, and the Presbyterian school awarded him a master's degree in 1955.

When he learned that war had broken out in Korea in 1950, he joined the U.S. Army as an interpreter.

His friendly feelings toward Americans, however, gave way to fierce enmity when he concluded that the U.S. Government had masterminded the bloody suppression of the Kwangju civil uprising in 1980.

His younger brother, Tong-hwan, is a vice president of the Party for Peace and Democracy, the largest opposition party in South Korea. Tong-hwan, who has an American wife, is also head of a legislative panel investigating the Kwangju uprising.

North's Ho Tam on Talks, Reform, Papal Visit

SK2503035689 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
25 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] Rome (ANSA-YONHAP)—North Korea will continue to have dialogue with south Korea, Ho Tam, chairman of north Korea's Committee for Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, said Thursday.

At a news conference here, Ho emphasized that inter-Korean dialogue should be continued as both south and north Korea promised to do so despite some "stumbling blocks." The news conference was arranged by the Korean Unification Committee of Italy.

Ho claimed that the core question in the Korean unification issue lies in the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea.

On the perestroika pursued by the Soviet Union, Ho said, "I don't see any necessity to apply it to our country."

He blamed Hungary for "abandoning communism" by adopting a multiparty system.

Concerning reports on Pope John Paul II's possible visit to north Korea, Ho said the Pope has never been invited to his country. "Nobody has ever told me about the pontiff's visit," Ho said.

Official Reports North Korean Ship Intrusion

SK2703082689 Seoul YONHAP in English 0821 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—A North Korean patrol boat, which intruded into the South Korean territorial waters on Saturday, returned northward, when a southern vessel moved out, a Defense Ministry spokesman said Monday.

"When a South Korean vessel moved out, the North Korean ship returned to its waters. There was no collision," he said.

Seoul will make a protest against this "clear" violation of the truce agreement through a military armistice meeting, he said.

The North Korean vessel was 4.5 nautical miles south of the demarcation line, following the 200-ton Japanese merchant ship "Yakushi-Maru," when it was seen by a South Korean patrol boat around 5 p.m. Saturday.

The Japanese ship, bound for the North Korean port of Haeju, passed 40 nautical miles southwest of Yonpungdo, the westernmost South Korean island.

The spokesman said vessels from the North have intruded into South Korean waters four times since Jan. 20, denying the North's claim that South Korean vessels have intruded four times this year.

U.S. Groups Designate ROK 'Priority Country'
SK2603031389 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 8

[Text] The U.S. trade representative has announced that 6 American industrial organizations have designated Korea as a priority foreign country for negotiations, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. [KOTRA] said yesterday.

The 6 organizations are the American National Soda Ash Corp., Blue Diamond Growers Association, Motion Picture Association, Intellectual Property Alliance, Northwest Cherry Growers Association and Electronics Industry Association, KOTRA said, quoting a report from its branch office in Washington.

Among the countries, beside Korea, charged by the American National Soda Ash Corp. were Colombia, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Taiwan and Turkey.

The Soda Ash Corp. was quoted as having claimed in its written opinion that those countries were imposing 15 percent high tariffs on its exported products.

The Intellectual Property Alliance contended that Korea had been neglecting in implementing the Korea-U.S. intellectual property rights agreement, bringing damage of \$100 million.

Relocation of U.S. Firing Range Negotiated
SK2503034089 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
25 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Korean and American military authorities agreed to hold negotiations over the relocation of the controversial shooting range of the U.S. Seventh Air Force in Hwasong, Kyonggi-to, the Defense Ministry said.

Col. Yun Chang-re, a ministry spokesman, said yesterday the agreement was made as U.S. authorities recently called for talks on removing the range to some other place.

More than 1,000 residents of Hwasong-kun have demonstrated against the range, which they said causes too much noise.

They demand that the families affected be moved to a "safer" place or be compensated if the removal of the range is not possible.

*** Editorial Analyzes OECD Membership**
41070070 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean
28 Jan 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Gains and Losses From OECD Membership"]

[Text] Regarding the issue of whether or not to join the OECD, concerned experts seem to have recently begun to debate the gains and losses from OECD membership.

A joint international conference was held on 24-25 January in Paris among the 24 OECD member countries and the four NICs (newly industrializing countries), and a conference of the world economic leaders was held on 27-29 January in Davos, Switzerland. Our country was officially invited to both of these meetings, and appropriate representatives have been sent.

The OECD is composed mainly of advanced industrial countries, but there are reasons for the OECD's unusual invitation of the four Asian countries—namely Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore—to its meeting. The first reason is to share responsibilities in international economic development. The OECD's original objectives are promotion of economic cooperation among the advanced countries and promotion of liberalization of trade and finance among the member countries; but equally important is economic assistance for underdeveloped countries.

In these meetings, the four Asian NICs were probably reminded of the importance of their roles in the changing world economy, and they were probably asked to cooperate as a participant in the broad world economic system that has been developed by the advanced countries thus far.

The second reason is, as expected, pressure for free trade. This organization, whose key members include the United States and the EC countries, sensed long ago that the rapid economic development of the newly-rising Asian countries was becoming a threat.

Thus, the United States and the EC countries have been independently exerting pressure on the newly rising Asian countries, but they probably thought that if they launch a concentrated offense through the power of an organization like the OECD, the NICs could be forced to take immediate action toward open markets, increased domestic demand, and appreciation of exchange rates.

While the advanced countries are pushing for both economic cooperation and free trade, they are also suggestively presenting an advanced country membership ticket to the NICs. That is, if the newly rising countries behave cooperatively and actively adopt open market policies, the OECD would be willing to let them join the organization. What is interesting is that they are not asking the NICs to join the organization first and then follow the rules, but that they would consider an invitation if the NICs would follow the rules first.

In the case of Korea, as the secretary general of the OECD clarified, there was no active discussion of Korea's membership issues at this meeting, and not all existing members of the OECD welcome Korea's membership.

Amid such an atmosphere, the United States and Japan have different thinking in mind. Based on its understanding that its relations with the Asian-Pacific countries are as important as that with Europe, the Bush

administration is reportedly planning to create a new, OECD-like international organization for the Asian-Pacific countries, and since the pending issues between the United States and the Asian-Pacific countries can no longer be dealt with through traditional bilateral negotiations, the Bush administration is said to be giving the highest priority of its Asian-Pacific diplomacy to developing an organization that can comprehensively administer the economic, political and military issues in all areas of this region.

Japan's position is also different. By letting the Asian NICs join the OECD, Japan intends to shift the focus of U.S. and EC trade pressure from Japan to the four Asian countries. In addition, because Japan in the long run has a desire to create an East Asian economic cooperation organization centered on Japan, it reacted impudently to the U.S. plan to create a new pan-Asian organization.

At a time when our economy is about to enter the circles of the advanced countries, the dominion of the world economy is changing in such a way that nobody can predict. Judging from trends thus far, it is clear that the world economic system is built on the so-called strong G7 countries and the OECD member countries, but we cannot deny that the most significant influence comes from the United States and Japan.

It seems that the government and industries of our country have been recently concentrating their efforts on establishing trade relations with the communist countries in Eastern Europe.

This is not unreasonable given that we need to diversify our markets while avoiding the trade pressures from the Western countries, but we are concerned that they might become negligent in diplomacy with the United States and Japan, which play the lead in the flow of the world economy.

In fact, the importance of our country is significant to both the United States, which is planning to create an Asian-Pacific cooperation organization, and Japan, which is thinking about a new East Asian economic cooperation organization. It is most important that we must be prudent in maintaining and developing the good-neighbor relations and economically cooperative relations which we have cultivated thus far.

Another important role that Korea must play is to strengthen its cooperation and relations with not only the NICs but also the semi-developed countries in Central and South America and the Eastern Europe. We must not take lightly the fact that since our country became a trade surplus nation and especially since the potential power of our country became known to the world since the Olympics, more and more semideveloped countries want to learn about the process of our country's development and want to seek and study a model of economic development.

We are even in a position where we can create an economic cooperation system for all these semideveloped countries. Needless to say, these countries, which are developing at a rapid pace, could become a significant market for us in the future.

We must discard the misconception that early membership in the OECD will bring some kind of solution for our immediate trade problems. We will not be spotlighted too long as a new star on their stage. Rather, it would be more prudent to focus our energy on solidifying our relations with our old partners and on creating a new economic cooperation system.

Soviet Office Will Not Assume Consular Duties
SK2503052789 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] Vice Foreign Minister Sin Tong-won yesterday reaffirmed that a Soviet trade office, which is due to open in Seoul early next month, could not undertake consular business as there has not been a government-level agreement on such functions.

He told reporters that the government's position has already been notified to the Soviet Union and that he expects Moscow to give its answer "shortly."

Under neither international laws or custom, are private offices allowed to handle consular affairs. The general principle will be applied to all trade offices to be set up in our country," he said. "In this context, China will also have to have consultations with the Korean government if it wants to authorize a trade office to handle consular affairs."

Yi Sun-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA), is visiting China at the invitation of the Chinese Council for the Promotion of International Trade, a state-run corporation, to discuss the exchange of offices in each country's capital.

"The KOTRA office in Beijing, if established, will be denied consular function, so will the CCPIT office in Seoul without a prior government-to-government pact on the matter," he added, noting that a number of socialist countries wish for further economic cooperation chiefly in their interest.

He made it clear that the state-financed KOTRA is not entitled to talk about consular business with its counterparts in socialist countries with which Seoul has no diplomacy.

Trade With USSR 'Leaped 270 Percent'
SK2503031389 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
25 Mar 89 p 6

[Text] Trade between south Korea and the Soviet Union by sea via a third party is more than buoyant amid prospects of a direct line between the two nations opening soon.

During the first two months of this year, Korea-Soviet trade leaped 270 percent to 920 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units). Exports to the Soviet Union increased 18.4 percent to 270 TEUs, while imports skyrocketed 550 percent to 650 TEUs, a maritime official said yesterday.

The Soviet policy of "glasnost" and Korea's efforts to improve its relationships with socialist nations have recently harmonized to bring about the fast growth, which will accelerate when the direct line is opened by the first half of this year, he said.

Working-level officials of the two nations meet in Moscow March 27 to 29 to discuss initiating a direct line between Korea's largest port, Pusan, and the Soviet Far East ports of Nakhodka and Vostochniy.

"Now that most of the steps for the sea route set-up have already been taken by the two nations' governments, it is just a matter of time before a direct line is established," commented an official of the Korea Maritime and Port Administration.

At present, Korea uses Japan as an intermediary in trading with the Soviet Union, with which it has no diplomatic ties. Shipments go first to the port of Moji, Japan, on vessels owned by Yamashita Shinnihon Lines (YSL) and then to the Soviet port of Vostochniy on the Soviet national carrier, Far Eastern Shipping Co.

Business Delegation To Visit Soviet Union

SK2503041689 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 8

[Text] A 37-member business delegation will visit the Soviet Union on April 14-25 at the invitation of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Federation of Korean Industries [FKI] announced yesterday.

They are scheduled to visit Moscow and four Siberian regions including Nakhodka and Vladivostok to study the feasibility of taking part in Soviet development projects.

The Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry officially called upon the Federation of Korean Industries to dispatch a Korean business delegation to the Soviet Union when Chong Chu-yong, honorary chairman of the FKI, visited the Communist country in January.

Initially, the Soviet chamber wanted a Korean business mission to visit the Soviet Union this month to study the feasibility of Korean business concerns participating in Siberian development projects and other projects.

It empowered the dispatch of a business delegation to the FKI, the nations' largest private economic organization, recognizing the federation as the official Korean channel for economic and trade cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union.

However, the dispatch of a business mission to the Soviet Union this month was not realized due to conflicting opinions among the government, the FKI and other economic organizations.

The FKI said that it recently conveyed its intention to the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry to dispatch a 37-member business delegation to the Soviet Union on April 14-25, and the Soviet chamber consequently approved it.

The federation disclosed that the Soviet chamber initially wanted Korean business delegation to visit Moscow and three Siberian regions including Nakhodka and Vladivostok.

Yu Chang-sun, chairman of the FKI, will lead the 37-member business delegation to the Soviet Union.

The 37 businessmen comprise: twenty recommended by the FKI, ten by the International Private Economic Council of Korea [IPECK], four by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry and two by the Korea Foreign Trade Association.

The IPECK is solely authorized by the government to handle economic and trade cooperation with Communist countries.

Firm Agrees to Projects in Soviet Far East

SK2503062689 Seoul YONHAP in English 0614 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—Samwhan Corp., a leading South Korean construction company, has agreed to participate in construction projects involving apartments, a refrigeration factory and construction material in the Soviet Far East.

Samwhan exchanged memorandums recently with a senior Fisheries Ministry official on taking part in the projects, a business source said Saturday.

The source said 1,000 apartments will be built in a town near Kamchatka and 500 apartments in Vladivostok.

Four Soviet officials will come to Seoul next week to discuss the projects and Choe Chong-whan, chairman of Samwhan, will visit the region in April to finalize the terms of the agreement.

College Soccer Event To Include USSR, PRC

SK2503051289 Seoul YONHAP in English 0246 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—A goodwill college soccer event involving five Northeast Asian countries is likely to be created in August with South Korea holding the inaugural tournament, the leader of the South Korean Collegiate Soccer Federation said Friday afternoon.

Yu Ki-su, returning from China, told reporters that China's Vice Sports Minister Ma Qiutian had agreed on the outline on the friendly games with the first tournament to be staged in South Korea Aug. 13-21.

Yu said the Soviet Union had shown a positive response, through the Chinese, to participation and was sure Japan would take part, but said he wondered if North Korea would attend.

The host country will bear the expenses and representatives from four countries, except North Korea, will meet in June to discuss the details of the tournament, he said.

USSR, Poland, Bulgaria To Open Trade Offices
SK2603032289 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 8

[Text] The Soviet Union, Poland and Bulgaria will open trade offices in Seoul one after another from next month through May, signalling the full swing of Korea's economic exchanges with the East bloc, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. [KOTRA] said yesterday.

According to sources at the KOTRA, two Soviet officials arrived in Seoul Wednesday to finalize the prior consultations for opening the Soviet trade office, slated for April 3, and the first Soviet office chief will also fly into Seoul late this month.

V.L. Malkevich, president of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce, will visit Korea on April 2, leading 10-odd Soviet officials, to declare the official opening of the Soviet trade office and will host a reception in commemoration of the opening, the sources said.

It was also learned that the Soviet trade office will be located in Samsung-tong near the Korea World Trade Center.

KOTRA will dispatch four officials to the Soviet Union late this month in order to begin trade work.

Poland To Exchange Officials in Apr
SK2503073489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will station a government official in Warsaw and Poland will keep a man in Seoul from April to encourage investment and technical collaboration, the Finance Ministry announced Saturday.

The South Korean representative will be a secretary-level official of the Finance Ministry and a Polish official at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization will be sent here, the ministry said.

The officials will collect information on the economy and investment climate for their nation's businesses.

Institute Urges Increased Role in Regional Bloc
SK2703023989 Seoul YONHAP in English 0234 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—South Korea should play a leading role in an Asia-Pacific economic bloc, increasing contributions to Southeast Asian countries from its overseas cooperation fund to prevent deepening regionalism of the world economy, a state-run institute reported Monday.

It is necessary to balance trade by exporting production facilities and factories and to accelerate investments for cooperation with Thailand, Indonesia and other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Korea Institute of Economy and Technology report said.

The report, titled "The Deepening Tendency of Regionalism in World Economy and Our Response," said Korea needs to promote capital cooperation with ASEAN countries by expanding the overseas cooperation fund and increasing technological cooperation.

Korea should have its own positive policy, the report recommended, to promote functional cooperation with countries in the Asia-Pacific bloc that have similar interests.

It also recommended a flexible and positive response to Japan's efforts to set up an Asia-Pacific economic body.

The report named the European Economic Community as another bloc that the country has to promote cooperation with to guard against deepening regionalism.

KMA Head Slights President, Criticizes Policy

Describes Nation's 'Confusion'
SK2603035589 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 3

["Gist" of speech by Lt. Gen. Min Pyong-ton, superintendent of the Korea Military Academy, KMA, delivered at the KMA commencement ceremony on 21 March]

[Text] You were born in the era of the Third Republic and live today, in the Sixth Republic.

Still young, only in your early 20's, you have seen many changes which might have taken centuries in other countries. You are still witnessing catalytic changes in the political situation at home and abroad.

In particular, a series of developments in our relations with socialist countries under "Nordpolitik" as well as North Korea make us, the people who stand in the forefront of the national defense, closely watch such changes and thoroughly prepare for our country's defense.

In this context, you may watch the string of occurrences in our country with exceptionally rapt attention, sometimes in seriousness, sometimes in confusion and sometimes in worry.

As a matter of fact, the nation is now in a state of confusion over values, reverie and illusion that we do not know what values we should protect. The situation is so grotesque and dangerous that we cannot discern nations friendly to us from enemies in some sectors of our society.

Looking at this phenomena and the military's position, if you hope to understand the reason why we face this reality, you should first be aware of the past which provided the cause.

If you wish to see what sort of future is before you, you should look back at what you've done to the present.

It is predictable that you will command your men in more difficult circumstances. Nevertheless, you have to succeed in your job. Your failure will lead to the failure of your unit, of the military and, in some cases, of the nation.

Setting examples for others, you should concentrate your whole energy on cultivating your units, arming them with a tough spirit through hard training that they will help you win battles without fail.

You should understand the much-cited axiom, the best policy is to win a war without battle, is for policy makers rather than military commanders. The battle is your business, while to decide whether to fight or resolve conflicts through diplomacy is left to politicians.

In this situation when politicians cry for peaceful unification, we, the military, should have cool heads and prepare war.

Therefore, what you, as just-commissioned officers, have to do is to have an interest in combat preparedness. To think of being promoted and being a military leader is a far cry from what you should be doing.

Offers Resignation

SK2503073989 Seoul YONHAP in English 0712 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—The superintendent of the Korea Military Academy has offered to resign for failing to pay respect to President No Tae-u, the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, at the school's commencement ceremony and for the uproar he created with his speech there.

Army Lt. Gen. Min Pyong-ton failed to salute No before and after his speech, in which he bitterly complained about the unrest caused by leftist groups and attacked No's policy of improving South Korea's relations with communist countries.

Speculation spread quickly that Min's behavior, intentional or not, represented the military's discontent with No's handling of leftist movements and labor disputes as well as his foreign policy, which the general described as "queer."

Gen. Min submitted his resignation to the president to assume "moral" responsibility for his actions, a Defense Ministry official said Saturday on condition of anonymity.

He said Min, who graduated from the academy in 1959, has cut off all official and unofficial contacts since his behavior set off a controversy Tuesday.

Min's "impolitic" outburst came the day after No, in a surprise move, indefinitely canceled a promised mid-term appraisal of his presidency. Hardliners in No's party, believed to be closely associated with the military, had been pressing No to put his presidency at stake in the referendum. They held a belief that a frontal contention against the anti-No camp and a subsequent win in the interim appraisal would give the incumbent government more power in controlling the radical left.

No hasn't commented on Min's behavior, but Chief Presidential Secretary Hong Song-chol told reporters that Min seemed to have made a "genuine mistake."

Newspapers have characterized the brouhaha as part of an extensive power game in the ruling camp.

No's decision to call off the interim appraisal was a major victory for "royalists" or "moderates" like his brother-in-law, fellow former General Kim Pok-tong, over the hardliners led by Chong Ho-yong, yet another retired general and now a ruling party lawmaker.

The day after the commencement ceremony, Chong told a news conference that he will never allow himself to be made a "political scapegoat" and refused to resign his National Assembly seat as demanded by the royalists.

Chong, top commander of the troops sent to Kwangju in 1980 to quell the civil uprising, is one of the six key figures of the government of disgraced former President Chon Tu-hwan that the opposition says the No government must punish.

One day before Chong's news conference, Kim told foreign correspondents in Seoul that the military figures responsible for the Kwangju incident should admit their crime.

In the course of the backroom dealmaking that led him to accept the opposition demand to call off the appraisal, No reportedly agreed to compromise on other opposition demands in exchange for ending Assembly investigations into wrongdoings under the Chon government.

No Rejects Prime Minister Kang's Resignation
SK2603041489 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun had tendered resignation to President No Tae-u on March 20 after the President shelved a referendum on his performance, only to have it returned it was learned belatedly yesterday.

Informed sources at the Prime Minister's Office said the premier visited President No at Chongwadae to deliver his resignation on the afternoon of March 20 after No announced the indefinite postponement of the referendum earlier in the morning.

But the President persuaded Kang to withdraw decision, according to the sources, saying the premier should not step down "at a time when the nation is sliding into difficulties."

The sources revealed that Kang, who voiced his strong determination to check growing leftism upon his inauguration, had on several occasions demanded that No stake his office in the plebiscite to soften the political deadlock at the Cabinet session.

No Tae-u Against Assemblyman Chong's Resignation
SK2703092989 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul March 27 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u disagrees with the opposition contention that Rep. Chong Ho-yong should resign from the National Assembly to take responsibility for the military suppression of the Kwangju civil uprising, a presidential aide said Monday.

No met Saturday with Chong, a military academy classmate and former Army chief of staff and defense minister, amid a dispute within the ruling party over whether to oust him.

Chong told No the opposition's demand for his resignation was political retaliation and said he was not responsible for the Kwangju suppression because he was not in command of the martial law forces deployed to put down the rebellion in the southwestern provincial capital in May 1980, the aide said.

Two brigades of Chong's special warfare forces were attached to the regional martial law forces to quell massive protests that left 193 people dead by official count.

No feels it is undesirable to demand a person's resignation without any concrete evidence of wrongdoing, he said.

The opposition accuses Chong of playing a key role in the suppression even though his two brigades were commanded by the regional martial law forces.

A hardliner with strong military backing, Chong is under pressure from moderates in the ruling party to quit his Assembly seat because of his role in Kwangju.

The retired four-star general is viewed as boss of the "T-K division," a powerful group of politicians from Taegu, No's hometown.

'Hawks,' Loyalists Feud Within Ruling Camp
SK2603023389 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
26 Mar 89 p 2

[By staff reporter Yi Song-yol]

[Text] Recent feuds within the ruling camp, which smack of a power game between conservative hawks and loyal reformists, has accelerated with the joining Kim Pok-tong, brother-in-law and personal adviser to President No Tae-u.

The core of the problem for the loyalists is what to do with Rep. Chong Ho-yong, a retired four-star general who was commander of the Special Warfare Command at the time of the 1980 Kwangju incident.

They want to relieve No of the burden imposed on him by past wrongdoings of the previous government led by Chon Tu-hwan by accepting the opposition call for removal of Chong, a classmate of No, Chon and Kim in the Korean Military Academy (KMA), from his parliamentary membership.

Amid Chong's hesitance, Kim insisted Chong voluntarily resign, saying Thursday that "those military responsible for the Kwangju incident should voluntarily come forward and accept guilt."

It is not certain whether Kim spoke on behalf of President No, but Chong immediately refused to become "a scapegoat in a political deal."

He even said that his resignation "would greatly disappoint the military that follows and trusts me."

Chong, who is leader of "Bulam-hoe," a fraternity group of ex-generals from the KMA, maintained he "may be the 100th of those close to the core of the Fifth Republic regime," denying he is a symbolic figure of Chon's "illegitimate and immoral" regime.

But ruling party sources continually leaked information that the Democratic Justice party [DJP] may sacrifice Chong to show the No government's will to terminate the Fifth Republic legacies.

Along with the "weak leadership" of the incumbent government, the DJP's trial balloon about Chong's fate may have frustrated and displeased many conservatives, as was shown by an episode that took place at the graduation ceremony of the KMA Tuesday.

Kim Pok-tong's attack against Chong is construed in part as a power game for initiatives in the ruling camp, largely dominated by the so-called "TK (Taegu and Kyong-pukgo) Mafia."

Chong, who leads a powerful intraparty faction, once desired to become chairman of the DJP but was checked by reformists Kim Yun-hwan, now DJP floor leader, and Pak Chol-on, a presidential aide, and others.

Some political observers say Chong may even be aiming at the next presidency, and afraid resignation at this moment may endanger his political life.

But a few ruling camp sources say Kim's call for Chong's resignation may only have an adverse effect, for the sake of himself or of President No, stirring an unnecessary controversy, pointing out that he's No's brother-in-law.

The ruling DJP will have to shakeup its lineup sooner or later if it is to conclude the issue surrounding Chong's fate, political observers predict.

The hawks, often represented by Chong, want a stronger government stance on policy and a more considerate stance concerning themselves. But a difference among some of them was shown when Kim Yong-kap abruptly resigned as government minister. Gen. Min Pyong-ton, superintendent of the KMA, indirectly expressed his complaint, while Chong refused to be removed.

Kim Tae-chung Wary of Military 'Going Political'
SK2503090689 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 2

[From the "Press Pocket" column: "Wariness"]

[Text] Kim Tae-chung appears to be wary of the possibility of the military going political, reminiscent of the rise of former president Chon Tu-hwan in the wake of the assassination of Pak Chung-hui.

Showing a keen attention to the "erratic" behavior of Lt. Gen. Min Pyong-ton, superintendent of the Korea Military Academy, during a commencement ceremony, Kim instructed his aides to report him what really happened.

He was quoted to have said that he could not but be suspicious because his [Min's] "imprudence" could not be a kind of accident.

In the presence of incumbent President No Tae-u, the three-star general did not show him due respect as the supreme commander of the Armed Forces when he proceeded across to the podium to deliver his address to the graduating cadets.

What is drawing special attention in addition to his suspicious behavior is his remarks heavily reeking of his displeasure with the way the government handles violent leftist forces to say nothing of the attitude of the opposition political parties.

He said now the nation is in such an unspeakably dangerous confusion of value that he could not discern friends from enemies.

By saying so, he stressed that the military should get ready for any contingency all the more because of undesirable development in the society.

Opposition Seeks Cabinet Resignation in Protest
SK2603024389 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
26 Mar 89 pp 2, 3

[Text] The opposition plans to submit to the National Assembly a resolution calling for the resignation of the government cabinet members to protest President No Tae-u's veto of four bills that were passed by parliament early this month.

The Reunification Democratic Party [RDP] yesterday called for resignation of the cabinet ministers en masse in protest of their recommendation that the President veto the four bills.

RDP spokesman Yi In-chae pointed out that two of the four bills—a bill on medical insurance and a revised Labor Disputes Adjustment Act—were passed by unanimous vote, even with the consent of the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

Denouncing the presidential veto of the bills as "a contempt of the legislative body," said the RDP called for the convening of a special Assembly sitting to deal with the resolution calling for resignation of the cabinet ministers.

In connection with the presidential veto, the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] Friday decided to submit a resolution calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, Labor Minister Chang Yong-chol and Mun Tae-chun minister of health and social affairs.

The three opposition parties—the PPD, the RDP and the new Democratic Republican Party—plan to hold a meeting of their floor leaders early this week to discuss ways to jointly cope with the presidential veto and joint submission of a resolution calling for resignation of the government ministers.

The four bills President No vetoed Friday included a bill on the local autonomy system and a revised Labor Union Act.

Under the Constitution, a parliamentary motion for resignation of the prime minister or other cabinet members may be introduced by one-third or more of the total members of the Assembly and shall be passed with the consent of a majority of the total lawmakers.

Launching of Crackdown on 'Leftist Forces' Noted

Magnitude Noted

SK2503055689 Seoul YONHAP in English 0507 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (YONHAP)—The government has launched an extensive crackdown on "left-leaning and pro-communist" movements by seizing 47 books, 32 of which are copies of North Korean originals, as "sympathizing and admiring" North Korea and will go on a nationwide search of book stores for "subversive" publications early next week.

The prosecution plans to confiscate the books and arrest their publishers on charges of violating the National Security Law.

As part of the drive against leftist tendency, the prosecution is investigating 108 private institutes and labor counselors suspected of teaching leftist theories.

Charges of breaching the National Security Law may also be filed against some 20 core members of the National Alliance of Democratic Movements (Chonminnyon), South Korea's largest dissident organization.

An inter-ministerial investigative agency to coordinate the crackdown on "violent left-leaning elements" is being seriously considered. It will reportedly comprise prosecutors and officials from the police, Education Ministry, Culture and Information Ministry and Labor Ministry, and will be in charge of gathering intelligence, investigations and indictments.

The National Police Headquarters has said it will arrest anyone who makes remarks admiring "anti-state organizations," a phrase that usually means North Korea.

Radical students or dissidents who make remarks or chant slogans that incite protests to overthrow the government or call for struggles of workers and farmers will be charged under the National Security Law.

All such remarks, regardless of where they are made, will be subject to strict action. University campuses and churches have been treated by police as "sanctuaries" for dissident activities.

Joint Team To Probe Radicals

SK2603034189 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Prosecutors will arrest and thoroughly investigate all radical students and dissidents who eulogize anti-government organizations and their movements and those who work for the overthrow of the regime of the incumbent President No Tae-u, aimed at exterminating violent leftist-leaning elements in the nation.

A joint investigation team will be formulated for speedy and efficient probing within this month.

A senior prosecutor who is charged with national security warned cautiously yesterday that radical leftist-leaning elements are increasingly inclined to ferment the atmosphere to topple the present regime and the country's free democratic system via violence, riding high on the tide of the ongoing democratic movement.

He said that the prosecutors and police had begun to probe 22 North Korean-published books and publications, primarily aiming at prohibiting the destructive leftism from spreading in the country.

Nowadays, a lot of books and magazines which lavishly praise Communist North Korea and its political system flood the bookstores, the prosecutor said.

He also made the strong point that even some radicals use these impure publications to indoctrinate students and workers with communism and its revolutionary class struggle and the ideology sympathetic to North Korea.

Many radical students and dissidents, he added, have since penetrated low-wage factories and almost all social segments to overthrow the government and the democratic political and free economic system.

But, the law-enforcement authorities will not make any issue of the "Critique on North Korea's Kim Il-song," the "Critique on Marxism" and other books which colleges and universities use to teach students about communism and its ideology.

Prosecutors are investigating about 20 key members of the National Alliance for Democratic Movement, one of the major dissident organizations, to determine whether or not they might get involved in violations of the Security Law.

They also probe the activities of the representatives of the National Alliance for Labor Movement and the National Council of Student Representatives to establish whether the dissidents had an illegal part in labor-management disputes.

Meanwhile, prosecutors and police are conducting quiet but rigorous probing of 58 political indoctrination institutes and 50 labor counselling offices.

The authorities concerned are resolutely determined to deal harshly with all dissidents who are found to have violated the security law in teaching students and workers at the institutes in accordance with the law.

Police will also arrest for investigation those who instigate workers to walk off the job and those who lead the striking workers in demonstrations.

Editorial Urges Prudence

SK2703003389 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
25 Mar 89 p 2

[Editorial: "The Authorities' 'Crackdown' Should Be Taken Prudently. It Should Not Encroach on Human Rights, Legalism, and Democracy"]

[Text] We make clear our view on the government's plan for a strong crackdown on "leftist forces." In a nutshell, in conducting the crackdown, we would like to strongly advise the government to resort only to democratic and legal principles and methods.

First, we would like to emphasize the need to conduct investigations based on positive evidence. The method of conducting investigations, by drawing a certain circle and unconditionally branding those locked in the circle as "those who benefited the enemy" or "those who encouraged, praised, or sympathized with the enemy," as was done in the past, should be avoided.

For instance, let us suppose that a certain group committed a specific act. In such a case, we can see that among the members of the group there would be those who have certainly violated the criminal law and those who have violated nothing. Yet, all members of this group become the target of investigation simply because they belong to it or simply because they are leading members of it. Such a method of conducting investigations which disregards such a discrimination should be avoided.

Second, we would like to emphasize the investigation principle in which the human rights of those under investigation are respected. In the past, investigation organs forcibly removed members of a certain group or organization for investigation and forced them to confess that they had attempted "a revolution by means of violence" according to a scenario. Also, people were punished by the Anticommunist Law if and when a progressive book or publication was found in their houses during the course of house search.

Such a method of conducting investigations has resulted in the overcrowding of prisons throughout the country and an increase in the number of so-called "prisoners of conscience." Therefore, we strongly urge the investigation authorities to faithfully enforce the laws based on clear and scientific evidence, while thoroughly respecting the human rights of those under investigation.

Furthermore, the method of conducting investigations by using torture or conducting them in a clandestine room should be renounced.

Third, the investigation authorities should not stretch the law in their favor. In other words, it is not correct to insist on such logic as, for example, "masses equals anticapitalists, anticapitalists equals prosocialism, prosocialism equals pro-North Korea, and pro-North Korea equals violation of the National Security Law." If someone used the word "class" simply to stress the need for the adoption of a parliamentary and unionist way to build a society for the working class, this cannot be a crime. However, what can be a crime is when a plot for the revolution through resorting to violence is attempted, the dictatorship by the Bolshevik class is sought, or reunification under the control of North Korea is called for.

Likewise, throwing Molotov cocktails, destroying public facilities, and occupying or setting fire to public installations are clearly acts which violate the criminal law. However, such acts cannot be declared to be acts of revolution through resorting to violence. Therefore, the investigation authorities should conduct investigation activity in a prudent manner. They should not repeat their past investigation behavior.

We do not oppose the righteous and just use of government power. We have also expressed worries over the growing ultraleftist ideological trend. However, in coping with such an ultraleftist ideological trend, we oppose the use of such methods as used in the period of the Yusin system and the Fifth Republic. In other words, the investigation authorities should use democratic and legal investigation methods.

Reactions to No's Directive on Arming Police

'Hawkish' Move 'Triggers Protest'

SK2503034989 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 25 Mar 89 p 2, 3

[News analysis by staff reporter Sim Yong-su: "No's Switch to 'Hawkish' Stand Triggers Opposition Protest"]

[Text] President No Tae-u, barely overcoming a political storm over his interim test, is engaged in yet another heated dispute with the opposition over a potentially disastrous decision to allow policemen to open fire on violent protesters.

Being increasingly conscious of mounting concerns that he may be "too soft" on security matters, No is unlikely to yield to opposition calls for withdrawing the decision which the opposition has denounced as a sheer "blackmail" against the people.

But the dispute is not expected to seriously damage the burgeoning mood of detente with the opposition which No has created through his somewhat controversial decision to postpone his midterm test at the opposition's request.

What is certain is that No's decision to permit policemen to open fire on violent protesters who attack police facilities with homemade bombs caught many people by surprise because it is totally against his usual "populist" political style.

No may have given the order, a political observer said, to demonstrate that his is not as weak as many think, and is willing to play a "bad guy's role" if deemed necessary for the nation.

His critics say that No has been too anxious to guard his meticulously-cultivated image as a "popular president" to do anything which might draw criticism. Even ruling party officials acknowledged it.

No made this arguably unpopular decision at a meeting Wednesday with security-related cabinet members, including Pak Se-chik, head of the Agency for National Security Planning.

It was the first time that the president has given an order to shoot at violent protesters, though police facilities and other public buildings were numerous scorched by Molotov cocktail attacks mostly by student activists.

An immediate question was raised over whether No had to do so, and whether he did it at a time of detente with opposition taking advantage of the cancellation of his midterm test.

Ruling party officials, praising No's decision as a proper and timely one to safeguard the nation's democratic system against revolutionary leftists, said that it would help bring home to people how serious the nation's leftist force was.

But the ruling party seemed to keep a low-profile, avoiding getting embroiled in the No-opposition dispute, calculating that the ruling camp has nothing to gain from joining an unpopular dispute.

Many ruling party officials seemed to share the view that such a dispute would go against its laborious efforts to rebuild its popularity before the next two major elections—the parliamentary vote in 1992 and the presidential election in 1993.

Behind No's extraordinary decision, another political observer said, was the powerful military's fast-growing yet so far dormant dissent over No's rule, particularly the way he handled leftist and labor strike problems and his somewhat controversial northern policy.

As a sign of the military's concern, the observer cited an "episode" at a commencement ceremony Tuesday at the Military Academy where No gave a traditional congratulatory speech.

The school president Min Pyong-ton, a 15th-class graduate of the academy and a three-star general, breaking tradition, did not salute No when he walked past No to give his speech. Min again ignored No when he returned to his seat.

Witnesses's views differed over whether Min committed the discourtesy on purpose or inadvertently.

Speculation was also rife over whether Min's act, if it was intentional, represented the voice of the military.

A clue may be found in the content of his speech, political observers said.

Min expressed his strong dissatisfaction with current social unrest and flourishing leftist revolutionary forces and the government's northern policy.

Min at one point denounced as "queer" the northern policy, meaning the government's effort to improve relations with East-bloc countries, including the Soviet Union and China and north Korea.

It may show there exists a "gulf" between the views of the government and the military over the northern policy.

No once was so proud of progress in northern policy that he thought of putting it to a popular vote along with the interim appraisal of his rule.

Government Administration Minister Kim Yong-kap's resignation last week, the observer said, must have had something to do with the military's dissent over No's "populist political style."

Kim, a 17th-class graduate of the Military Academy, abruptly resigned after warning that the destiny of the nation is in danger because of leftist forces.

A day after attending the commencement ceremony of his alma mater, No suddenly called security-related cabinet members to Chongwadae to give the bombshell directive.

No's order drew immediate protest from opposition parties and dissident organizations.

The nation's three opposition parties, claimed that they were shocked at No's decision and urged No to immediately retract the order.

But a quiet yet more weighty admonition came from Kim Pok-tong, No's brother-in-law and a presidential aspirant.

Saying that current political unrest is attributed to the errors of past regimes, Kim advised No to investigate further why violence by progressive forces and the political turmoil of today occurred.

Abandoning M-16 Use Urged

SK2603235589 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean
24 Mar 89 p 6

[Editorial: "Are They Forced To Really Shoot Rifles at the Hearts of the People? The Cause of Flying Firebombs Must First Be Eliminated"]

[Text] Is the power of the state "official strength" or "lawless might"?

The meeting of public security ministers chaired by President No Tae-u at Chongwadae on 22 March resulted in a decision to strongly cope with arson attacks and other violent raids on public facilities by supplying weapons to field police stations.

At a meeting held on the same day by directors of metropolitan and provincial police bureaus, Cho Chong-sok, chief of the National Police Headquarters, also handed down a directive to strongly cope with the situation, including using weapons if necessary. Often, police stations are attacked with privately-made bombs and firebombs and are in flames, and the personal safety of policemen is endangered.

Those who have heard this report might have doubted even their own ears by imagining the police using rifles to shoot students and workers who merely throw a few firebombs. Are those who issued these directives indeed capable of thinking normally?

The government of a nation which claims democracy as its system should not recklessly abuse its power. The state power should be exercised based on the law and should meet the demand of the law. Even the textbook on administrative decrees stipulates that the principle of minimally exercising state power strictly according to the demand is correct and a "relative principle" for not misusing state power.

The act of blocking from the outset the people who pledged to hold a peaceful rally and of firing M-16 rifles to cope with firebombs is an act running counter to all such principles. However, today the state powers—the police in particular—are resorting to violence while destroying democratic principles and laws.

The police chief's directive indeed has a dangerous nature which surpasses the limit of a mere "absurd remark."

The police chief openly handed down the directive at a time when the responsible officials in the government and ruling party, including the president, are shouting about "safeguarding the system" and "eliminating the violent leftist forces" like their slogans.

Is this merely a threat or a potential real action? One cannot but interpret this as an intention to trigger an internal war.

It is indeed an arbitrary decision to brand as "leftist violence" the just and fair voices of the people who are opposed to the government's erroneous policies and who stand at the vanguard of the movement for national reunification while demanding democratization.

Furthermore, they intend to "sternly punish" and "eliminate" some people by labelling them as enemies and even to kill and injure them with weapons. The president, the government, and ruling party, which hold power and are responsible for affairs of state, should not carry out such an act. If the president and the officials responsible for public security resort to such extreme means, those who are engaged in maintaining public security in the field will exercise state power in a more reckless manner.

There is a great possibility that a second Pak Chong-chol incident and a second Yi Han-yol incident may occur at any time. Why on earth are M-16's to be supplied to police stations? They are combat weapons which cause mortal wounds. There is no country in the world where the police use such powerful firearms as the M-16 against the people.

Firebombs are firebombs. That one would combat a manual weapon which was made by mixing chemicals in an empty bottle of soju with a real rifle cannot be justified with any logic. The true significance of public security is to prevent violence from occurring, not to repress small violence with greater violence. This also applies to the present regime. The incumbent government should sincerely ponder why firebombs were made and should seek a solution to problems before it attempts to eliminate them with rifles.

The Fifth Republic irregularities continue to fester rather than being liquidated, while the number of Sixth Republic irregularities continue to snowball. It is indeed a horrible idea to shoot rifles at the hearts of the people. Such a barbarous idea must be discarded at once.

Chonminnyon Criticizes Measure

SK2703073689 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
26 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] In a statement issued on 25 March in connection with the government authorities' hard-line measures to counter left-leaning violent forces, Pak Kye-tong, spokesman for the National Coalition of the Nation and Democracy [Chonminnyon], said: The government authorities have recently driven the people into an environment of terror by openly declaring that they will crack down on organizations and movements for the nation and democracy and by having Cho Chong-sok, director of the National Police Headquarters, order the use of M-16 rifles in advance [as published].

He added: The Chonminnyon denounces the No Tae-u regime's suppressive maneuvers and will resolutely counter the present regime's plots together with the entire population by uniting the forces rallied behind the movement for the nation and democracy.

Criticism Affects Policy

SK2603014489 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
26 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] The National Police Headquarters (NPH), stung by popular criticism of its plan to use firearms against those attacking police posts, said that police use of guns will be strictly restricted.

Powerful M-16 rifles will be used only when policemen's lives are at risk, an NPH spokesman yesterday.

According to the NPH-issued guidelines on the use of firearms, police will be equipped with M-16s when dispatched on emergency duties but the use of the lethal rifle will be strictly limited to "extenuating circumstances."

Police are ordered to resort to pistols and carbines when necessary, and even in using these weapons, they must fire only in self-defense, the spokesman said.

Police are also to use blank shots when possible and aim at ankles or other non-vital parts of the human body to minimize bodily injury, the guidelines said.

In case of attack on police stations and boxes, firearms can be used when demonstrators have surrounded the buildings and lives of officers inside are threatened by Molotov cocktails or homemade bombs. Police can also fire when protesters attempt to enter their buildings with explosive materials or when they refuse to back down their attack after three calls for surrender.

Police, however, are prohibited from firing at the public gathered around buildings or aiming at protesters who only throw firebombs without posing direct threat, the guidelines stated.

Claiming that all policemen have been thoroughly educated on legal limitations of using firearms, NPH Chief Cho Chong-sok said that the announced replacement of carbines with M-16 rifles will proceed as planned.

According to the replacement plan, 4,300 M-16 rifles will be supplied to police boxes and stations this year, and by 1999, 110,000 riot police will each own an M-16.

Although opposition parties and critics have risen up against police use of firearms, specifically the M-16, a gradual replacement of carbines by the rifles has been taking place since 1981.

Students Form New Alliance, Clash With Police
SK2603013789 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
26 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Radical students hurled hundreds of firebombs and rocks at riot police Saturday after forming a new student alliance to try and oust President No Tae-u's government by staging nationwide protests.

About 800 students battled riot police at Yonsei University after radical leaders denounced No and called for a joint struggle by students, workers and farmers to topple the government. Student leaders criticized the United States for supporting No.

"Unite and overthrow the No Tae-u regime," masked students chanted as they pelted police with firebombs that exploded in blasts of blazing gasoline and flying glass.

Student representatives from 37 universities and colleges in Seoul met at Yonsei to inaugurate the "Student struggle headquarters for the overthrow of the No regime." Similar groups are to be formed in other parts of the nation, student leaders said.

Some 4,000 riot police surrounded and sprawling campus in western Seoul and fired tear gas and hurled rocks at the attacking students. Police armored vans fired salvos of choking tear gas and troopers made several charges to drive the students back.

Several police officers hit by firebombs were set on fire and burned, but police officials had no figures on injuries on either side. No arrests were reported.

Student Unrest 'Another Cultural Revolution'
SK2503032989 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
25 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] Long at the forefront of popular aspirations for democracy, south Korea's universities are today seething with student unrest directed at the students' erstwhile allies—professors.

A recent spate of incidents at the country's universities and colleges has aroused widespread debate in education circles and the press, with analysts offering a variety of explanations and prescriptions for cure.

Most analyses agree, however, that the campus unrest has disrupted education to a degree unprecedented in a country where Confucian thinking has meant that educators were traditionally held in high esteem, whatever their shortcomings.

"This is another Cultural Revolution," said a prominent south Korean professor in reference to China's tumultuous 1967-1976 upheaval when students criticized their professors—and sometimes even beat them to death.

Things are not that bad in south Korea, but the professor, who declined to be identified, complained that student aides with links to campus radicals were monitoring his telephone calls to limit his contacts with the government and press.

Analysts said professors were being targeted in part because of the success of the student campaign for democratization.

In the past two years, the government has accepted many of the students' reasonable demands, including a direct presidential election and reforms in the National Assembly elections that led to an opposition-dominated legislature.

Dissidents and campus radicals still label south Korean President No Tae-u a "military dictator," but most south Koreans consider him a vast improvement over his predecessor, disgraced ex-President Chon Tu-hwan.

Seeking a new rallying point, student leaders have begun pushing for immediate reunification with north Korea while seeking to expand their power on campus by targeting administration officials and professors, analysts said.

In mid-March at least 33 of the nation's 105 colleges and universities were embroiled in disturbances of one kind or another, and the disputes threatened to spread to other campuses, according to press reports.

At Seoul's top-rated Korea University students demanding a role in the selection of the university president pushed and shoved professors trying to enter an auditorium to vote for the university's top administrator.

At Yonsei University, another leading institution, hundreds of students occupied the university president's office for several days protesting a seven percent increase in tuition fees.

Tuition for a semester at the Christian-funded university amounted to 730,000 won (\$1,070) last year.

In mid-March at least 20 university presidents' offices across the country were occupied by student protesters with varying demands, including a tuition freeze and full disclosure of university budget practices.

Other disputes involve so-called "progovernment professors," including some independent moderates whom radical students want to oust from campus.

Students who joined in antigovernment demonstrations during the Chon regime, sometimes risking their lives, are now venting anger at professors who had refused to speak out against Chon's repressive rule.

Analysts say that he unrest is merely a symptom of deeper problems with the country's higher education.

Government To Intervene in Labor Disputes
SK2503070189 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u asserted yesterday that the government would not sit idle and simply watch labor disputes develop into impure and illegal struggles any longer.

Recalling that the illegal strike by Seoul subway unionists had been brought to an end, the President said, "Unlawful activities (in labor conflicts) at big business firms will be dealt with according to the law."

The statement indicates that the government will positively intervene in the labor disputes at Hyundai Heavy Industries, which have continued for more than 100 days.

He made the remarks and others in an interview he held with the MAEIL KYUNGJE SHINMUN, an economic daily published in Seoul, on the occasion of the 23rd anniversary of the paper's founding.

"The time has come when the right demands of workers should be admitted in a reasonable way, but they have to know that they should work together with management to solve problems which have been piled up for 30-40 years," he said.

Asked about the background for his decision to postpone the midterm appraisal of his performance, the President said, "It was more difficult for me to make up my mind not to have it (mid-term test) than rushing it through putting everything at stake."

"I will seek to solve urgent problems first, and will review carefully the issue (of holding the plebiscite) in a way that is helpful to the nation," he reiterated.

The President stressed, "What is important at this moment is to get rid of elements causing confusion and retrocession at the earliest possible date."

"The prime task of me, the government and all political forces is to get untied to solve all the problems such as the surge of forces attempting to overthrow the present political system, difficult economic circumstances, split national opinion and disorder in society stemming from the rapid move for the democratization," he underlined.

Referring to the determined plan for using "state powers," No said, "All sectors of society are required to cope with outlaws and particularly elements seeking to topple our free democratic system all together."

"Now, the people are urged to support the use of state power," he said.

During the interview, the President also said that the government would work out fundamental measures to prevent land from becoming the subject of speculative investment any more.

He further said that the system of using real names in all banking accounts would be implemented totally from 1991.

Major Reshuffle of Senior Prosecutors Conducted
SK2603042989 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Mar 89 p 3

[Text] The government yesterday conducted a major reshuffle of senior prosecutors following its recent choice of a hardline policy to clamp down on mushrooming left-leaning elements.

Kim Tu-hui, 47, chief of the Seoul District Prosecutors' Office, replaced as vice justice minister So Chong-sin, 48, who was named director of the Prosecution Research and Training Institute.

Han Yong-sok, 48, senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, was transferred to the top post of the Seoul High Prosecutors' Office, and Cho Song-uk, 47, chief of the Suwon District prosecutors' Office, was named to head the Kwangju High Prosecutors' Office.

Kim Yu-hu, 47, director of the Prosecution Bureau at the Justice Ministry, was appointed chief of the Pusan District Prosecutors' Office, replacing Kim Kyong-hoe, 49, who became head of the Seoul District Prosecutors' Office.

New heads of other local district prosecutors' offices are Yu Sun-sok in Kwangju; Kim To-on in Suwon, Kyonggi-to; Yim Sang-hyon in Taejon; Pyon Chae-il in Masan, Kyongsangnam-to; Chong Kyong-sik in Chongju, Chungchong-pukto; and Mun Chong-su in Chonju, Cholla-pukto.

Pak Chong-chol, chief of the Central Division at the Prosecutor-General's Office, became director of the ministry's Prosecution Bureau; Chi Hon-pom, chief of the Kwangju District Prosecutors' Office, director of the Planning Board; and Hwang Kil-su, chief of the 1st Criminal Division at the Prosecutor-General's Office, as director of the Prosecution Affairs.

Meanwhile, Yi Kun-kae took charge of the Security Division at the Seoul District Prosecutors' Office, and Choe Myong-pu of the Central Division of the Prosecutor-General's Office, Yu Kil-son the 1st Criminal Division, and Song Chong the 2nd Criminal Division.

Board To Abolish Almost All 'Quasi-Taxes'
SK2503051489 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 8

[Text] Almost all quasi-taxes will be abolished, freeing enterprises from various types of compulsory donations to public and social institutions.

The Economic Planning Board [EPB] said yesterday that of 212 kinds of quasi-taxes, 193 will be scrapped.

The remaining 19 types, which will continue to exist, are 13 kinds of donations to needy neighbors, three sorts of

donations to calamity victims, Red Cross fees and two others related with wounded veterans.

An EPB spokesman, however, said that the voluntary contribution of donations by enterprises to social organizations will be welcomed.

He said the government and the ruling Democratic Justice Party had decided to scrap compulsory donations by enterprises to alleviate financial burden on them.

The government has already discontinued collecting 34 kinds of donations—seven for defense, 11 for the Sae-maul (new community) movement, 15 for sports and village night guard fees.

The 159 other kinds of compulsory contributions will be abolished next year after the revision of related laws at the regular National Assembly session in September, the spokesman said.

All the articles of the laws stipulating donation collection activities will be rewritten in the law banning compulsory collection of donations.

Fund collection to be allowed in the law will also be reduced from the present seven kinds to three—relief funds for business suffering from natural disasters, charity business and fund for wounded veterans.

If funds are raised without permission, fund raisers will face criminal punishment harsher than the current maximum 2 million won in penalties or maximum three years in imprisonment, the EPB officials said.

Even when donations are made voluntarily, receiving institutions must report them to donation screening committees in the Home Ministry, Seoul City, five other special cities and provincial governments.

Also, the government will reduce permissible tax-free loss amounts in connection with donations of enterprises to block illegal donations.

Public hearings on the abolishment of compulsory donations will be held in April.

Enterprises donated an average of 49 million won or 0.13 percent of their output in 1987, according to a survey conducted by the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry. But the reports of the Federation of the Korean Industries and the Economic Planning Board estimated at 307 million won and 230 million won respectively, the average amount of donations by enterprises in the same year.

On the other hand, 55 kinds of donations have been collected based on legal grounds, but as many as 157 kind have been raised without any legal justification.

Government To Partially Decontrol Exchange Rate
SK2503041889 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Mar 89 p 8

[Text] Korea will undertake a partial liberalization of the foreign exchange rate this year.

A government source said yesterday that each foreign exchange bank will be allowed to sell and purchase foreign currencies at a competitive margin rate from the second half of this year.

This means that the customer exchange rate will be left to market forces. The customer rate is applied to foreign exchange transactions between customers and foreign exchange banks.

The telegraphic transfer rate, which is basic to other customer rates, is now determined by adding and subtracting a 0.40 percent exchange margin to and from the concentration base rate.

But Korea will daily announce the base concentration rate by the Bank of Korea [BOK].

When the Bank of Korea announces its daily concentration base rate, each bank will be allowed to sell and purchase foreign currencies within a certain spread so that banks can determine their own foreign exchange rate.

Foreign banks here, especially American commercial banks, have long argued for free determination of the foreign exchange rates between won and foreign currencies, especially between the won and U.S. dollar.

The partial deregulation is seen stimulating the development of Korea's backward foreign exchange market, analysts said.

Korea adopted a multi-basket pegged system in February of 1980 and the BOK officially determined the exchange rate. The Bank of Korea establishes its concentration rate which is basic to determining such other rates as the interbank rate and customer rate.

The Bank of Korea concentration base rate is calculated as follows

Firstly, the Korean won-U.S. dollar exchange rate is calculated on the basis of SDR (special drawing rights) and a trade-weighted basket by averaging the two basket rates according to their assigned weights.

Secondly, the Korean won exchange rate against foreign currencies other than the U.S. dollar is determined by arbitrating between the U.S. dollar of the currency in the international market and the above Korean won-dollar concentration base rate.

Foreign exchange rates are classified into the Bank of Korea concentration base rate, the Bank of Korea concentration buying and selling rate, the interbank rate and the customer rate depending upon the partners to the transactions.

Increase in Current Account Surplus Reported
SK2703065689 Seoul YONHAP in English 0636 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 27 (YONHAP)—Overseas assets rode South Korea's galloping current account surplus to a 700 percent increase last year, the Bank of Korea (BOK) said Monday.

The Central Bank said assets soared 8.396 trillion won or 12.439 billion U.S. dollars, up from the previous year's 1.214 trillion won increase.

Based on the then exchange rates, the country's overseas assets grew 11.493 billion dollars last year (one dollar averaged 730.57 won), compared with 1.476 billion dollars in 1987 (one dollar averaged 822.41 won).

The Central Bank said deposits in foreign banks grew 3.453 trillion won (about 4.727 billion dollars) and holdings of short-term and long-term foreign bonds increased 1.261 trillion won (about 1.726 billion dollars) and 2.887 trillion won (about 3.952 billion dollars), respectively.

Korea's external debt fell 1.434 trillion won (about 1.963 billion dollars), 18.3 percent of the previous year's 7.823 trillion won (about 9.512 billion dollars) decline (a 20.6 percent drop in dollar terms).

While 7.157 trillion won (about 8.702 billion dollars) of the foreign debt was repayed ahead of schedule in 1987, the figure dwindled to 3.035 trillion won (4.154 billion dollars) last year.

Reflecting increasing imports on credit to reduce losses resulting from the won's continuing appreciation against the dollar, trade credits swelled 1.048 trillion won (about 1.434 billion dollars) last year, up 2,400 percent from 43.2 billion won (about 53 million dollars) in 1987 (up 2,700 percent in dollar terms), according to the BOK data.

Industrial Plant Exports Decline 'Sharply'
SK2503055489 Seoul YONHAP in English 0536 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Seoul, March 25 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korean plant exports are down sharply due to uncompetitive prices and technology, an analyst said Saturday.

Exports fell 8 percent to 446 million U.S. dollars last year and the dive is picking up speed this year, he said.

Continuing appreciation of the won coupled with rising wages has undermined the competitiveness of Korean factories compared with those of Taiwan, China and India.

Production technology is also a problem, resulting in falling profits despite an increase in orders, up three in 1988 to 64, chiefly small scale and low value-added plants, he said.

Plant exports were viewed as a boon by domestic manufacturers when they started being squeezed with rising production costs in labor-intensive fields in the mid-1980s.

Burma

'Prominent Student Leader' Arrested 23 Mar
BK2503013389 Bangkok THE NATION in English
25 Mar 89 pp 1-2

[Text] Rangoon—Authorities have arrested a prominent student leader and will take action against political parties involved in any anti-government demonstrations, the government spokesman said yesterday.

The arrest Thursday [23 March] of Min Ko Naing was the first of a well-known student activist since military commander General Saw Maung seized power in a coup last September.

Government spokesman Kyaw Sann cited seven instances between March 15-21 in which he said Min Ko Naing made anti-government speeches at offices of the National League for Democracy, a major political party headed by dissident leaders Tin U and Aung San Suu Kyi.

The student also violated the ban on public gatherings, Kyaw Sann said.

"Min Ko Naing and his groups have repeatedly violated the law, inciting the people to disrupt the peace and tranquility in the country," he charged in a news conference. "They were also planning to disrupt the forthcoming Armed Forces Day celebrations on March 27."

"Action will also be taken against political parties involved in these anti-government activities," Kyaw Sann said without naming any parties.

Meanwhile, Htun Aung Gyaw, chairman of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF), a dissident student organization on the Thai-Burmese border, has urged Rangoon to release Min Ko Naing and all other students recently arrested and detained by police.

"Min Ko Naing is a non-violent demonstrator and he is the student leader in Rangoon. We demanded the military regime of Saw Maung to immediately release him and another four students they arrested earlier," said Htun Aung Gyaw.

He said the situation in Rangoon became tense with the arrest of the student leader.

"Our contact in Rangoon reported sporadic gunfire can be heard around the city since Thursday afternoon," he said.

He said Min Ko Naing was arrested because he led about 40 students in a demonstration, chanting anti-government slogans and demanding that police release four students arrested earlier.

Students took a leading role in the street demonstrations last year aimed at ending a quarter century of authoritarian rule in Burma.

Min Ko Naing was a leader of the most important student group involved in the campaign for democracy, the All Burma Student Federation. Most members of the federation went underground or fled to the border areas with Thailand after the coup, but Min Ko Naing and two other leaders resurfaced in Rangoon late in the year.

Council, Finance Minister Hold News Conference
BK2403155189 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Excerpts] Colonel Abel, minister of finance, planning and trade, and members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] held the 32d news conference in the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense with local and foreign correspondents at 1300 today.

In the first part of the news conference, Minister Col Abel explained the 1989 state budget of the SLORC. [passage omitted]

Next, members of the SLORC information committee commented on a broadcast by the Voice of America [VOA], saying that at 1800 on 22 March VOA said that the U.S. Government has issued a warning advising U.S. citizens not to visit Burma, citing the uncertain security situation. The warning, issued through U.S. embassies in Asia, said that the night curfew remains in force in Burma and those wishing to visit Burma should first consult the U.S. diplomatic missions. The BBC also broadcast a similar report at 0640 on 23 March.

The Foreign Ministry of Burma has contacted all diplomatic missions in Burma and informed them of the VOA broadcast to enable them to take necessary measures. We do not know which departments or organizations are the source of such information recommending against travel to Burma for foreigners because of an uncertain security situation. We are not aware that such a worrying situation exists at present. There should have been such an expression of concern during the past disturbances; if there had been we would not have commented. However, even at that time the Defense Forces were able to control the situation, as journalists know. We are puzzled as to why there should be concern about the uncertain situation at this time; we cannot understand it.

It is possible that at present there is some instigation by those bent on creating disturbances. If such a development does take place action will be taken in accordance with the law as a preventive measure. Our view is that the situation has improved compared to past events.

Continuing, the information committee explained that the law and order situation in Rangoon has improved and the people are peacefully pursuing their livelihood. However, in recent days some political parties, which do not desire such a peaceful state, are allowing dissidents bent on creating disturbances to use loudspeakers to make antigovernment and antimilitary speeches in their offices.

On 16 March a meeting led by U Aung Kyi, presiding chairman, and U Lwin, secretary of the meeting, was held from 1100 to 1300 at a township office of the National League for Democracy No 719, Ka Ward, Khemathi Street, North Okkalapa. The meeting was attended by Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, and Aung Din from the All Burma Federation of Student Unions [ABFSU]—an illegal organization—and Sit Ko Naing, alias Myo Thein, from the Student Youth Federation for Democratic Struggle—an illegal organization—who were allowed to make antigovernment and antimilitary speeches.

Similarly at a meeting held from 1300 to 1345 on 16 March at a township office of the National League for Democracy at No 114, 4th Ward, 8th Mile, Mayangon Township, Ko Ko Gyi, Aung Din, and Soe Thein from the National League for Democracy delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches.

From 1230 to 1400 on 17 March at a township office of the National League for Democracy at No 2, Bolane Street, Aungmyingala Ward, Tamwe Township a group led by Min Ko Naing, who arrived in a Publica pickup vehicle with license plate Htasin/4522, made antigovernment and antimilitary speeches.

Moe Thi Zun and Tin Than U from the Democratic Party for New Society; Wai Lin, Khin Than, and Min Din from Rangoon University Student Union—an illegal organization—and Aung Thura from the All Burma Federation of Student Unions—an illegal organization—delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1055 to 1130 on 18 March at the Rangoon Division office of the Democratic Party for New Society at No 145 Shwegondine Road, Bahan Township.

Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, Soe Thein, Moe Thi Zun, Moe Kyaw Htet, and Ye Teza arrived in a Publica vehicle with license plate Htasindu/636 at a township office of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League, Main Headquarters, at No 37, Aung Bhamaso Street, 7th Ward, South Okkalapa and delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1200 to 1330 on 18 March.

Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, Aung Din, Sit Ko Naing, Naing Win, Zaw Moe Htet, Win Hlaing, Tet Maw, and Mohein went to the township office of the National League for Democracy at No 140 Thiri Street, East Zigon Ward, Insein and delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1140 to 1400 on 19 March. Nine of them proceeded in three Datsun vehicles with license plates Nya/1212, Nagyi/7301, and Dauklachike/7618 to the township office of the National League for Democracy at No 114 Prome Road, Mayangon and delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1430 to 1730.

Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, Aung Din, Moe Thi Zun, Mochein, Min Thein, Ma Tun Tun Maw, and Thiha Tun arrived in three vehicles at the township office of the

National League for Democracy at Zamyinzwé/North Ward in Thingangyun on 20 March and delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1000 to 1200.

Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, Aung Din, Soe Thein, and Tin Than U delivered antigovernment and antimilitary speeches from 1300 to 1530 on 20 March at the office of the Patriotic Old Comrades League at No 97/Gagyi, Shwegondine Road, Bahan Township. They delivered these speeches repeatedly to undermine law and order.

At 1200 on 20 March, 10 youths including 4 youths in charge of close security from the National League for Democracy, a youth member of the Democratic Party for New Society, and two female students were arrested for creating a disturbance at the gates of the Rangoon Arts and Sciences University. At about 1500 on the same day, Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, and Soe Thein from the National League for Democracy arrived and demanded the release of the detained youths and instigated a disturbance at the junction of Hledan and Kamayut Roads.

Furthermore, about 100 people led by Soe Thein from the National League for Democracy and Ko Ko Gyi from Min Ko Naing's group gathered again at 1100 on 21 March at the junction of Kamayut and Hledan Roads, demanded the release of the 10 detained youths, and instigated disturbances.

Such incidents are a clear indication that some political parties are encouraging their followers to deliberately create disturbances to instill fear among the people living in peace. [passage omitted]

Political parties concerned and dissidents bent on creating disturbances are warned to stop their activities aimed at inciting disturbances. Effective action will be taken against them if they continue these activities. [passage omitted]

The information committee explained that there was a rumor about an Indian-Burmese race riot in Moulmein around 17 March, that the Chinese aided the Burmese, and that there were many casualties among the Indians. These rumors were spread to undermine stability; the rumors were totally untrue. [passage omitted]

Another report is related to our preparations for the Armed Forces Day celebrations. We have learned that some political parties are claiming that the holding of the Armed Forces Day violates Order No 2/88 of the SLORC. They are saying that if we have the right to hold the Armed Forces Day celebrations then they have the right to carry out their activities. We are treating these reports simply as rumors. [passage omitted]

What we would like to say is that Armed Forces Day, which is also known as Resistance Day, marks the uprising against the fascists and has been celebrated since 1955. The Armed Forces Day is held to honor this

historical event. It is not being held to create disturbances or to commit offenses. It is clear that the political parties want to create unrest in planning their activities. [passage omitted]

The attitude of some members of the public toward the current disturbances is that they have witnessed how such events can grow into a state of anarchy and they want to control the minor disturbances from the very beginning. Some are concerned that there could be shootings. The Defense Forces absolutely do not want to shoot. Our government and the Defense Forces are taking action to maintain peace among the three parties and we remain alert to prevent a return to last year's situation. The events of last year happened because of some unscrupulous elements and because of external instigation. There were no political organizations then. We are watching how the political parties carry out their work.

Some organizations are demanding that order No 2/88 of the SLORC be rescinded, and they are threatening to stage a boycott and carry out guerrilla activities if this is not done. The Armed Forces are well versed in guerrilla warfare and are fully capable of crushing those who engage in guerrilla warfare. Therefore, the people should not pay undue attention to those who are making such threats. The final point is: Do not try to disrupt the holding of Armed Forces Day activities. Any such attempt will result in action being taken in accordance with the regulations.

If these organizations step up their activities the Defense Forces will take corresponding action. We hereby inform them of this fact via the representatives of the media.

In response to questions from the journalists it was confirmed that the Kokang nationals have left the Burma Communist Party [BCP] on 12 March. It is also likely that other nationals—Shan, Wa, and Kong—are also likely to leave. We have learned that these ethnic groups are leaving the BCP because they do not like the political system it espouses.

It has also been confirmed that Min Ko Naing, alias Paw U Tun, chairman of the illegal All Burma Federation of Student Unions, has been arrested. Min Ko Naing, alias Paw U Tun, was arrested because he and his associates instigated disturbances to the detriment of law and order, peace and tranquillity. At the same time, it has been ascertained that they have been carrying out organizational work and giving speeches.

The Armed Forces Day or Resistance Day is a day of great historical significance and this historic occasion is celebrated annually. We have learned that Min Ko Naing and his associates have been carrying out activities and plans to disturb and undermine the holding of Armed Forces Day. Furthermore, Min Ko Naing has been found to have repeatedly violated Order No 2/88 of the SLORC. This is why he was arrested at 1530 on 23

March in Yankin. Action will be taken against him in accordance with the law. As of today, 15 students including Min Ko Naing have been arrested. [passage omitted]

'Stern Warning' Issued

BK2403134289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1339 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Rangoon, March 24 (AFP)—Burma's military authorities Friday issued a stern warning to dissidents from making plans to disrupt an "Armed Forces Day" celebration scheduled for early next week.

Lieutenant Colonel Than Tun, the military government spokesman, told a press conference here that any attempt to disrupt Monday's celebration of Armed Forces Day would be effectively dealt with.

The event will be celebrated in Burma on March 27, the day that Burmese founding father Aung San led the Army in driving out Japanese troops who occupied the country 44 years ago.

Fifteen students, including well-known student leader Min Ko Naing, were arrested during unrest here earlier this week, Lt. Col. Than Tun said.

He said "some political parties" which did not want to see peace and tranquility had been instigating student dissidents to create unrest by "allowing them to use their premises for anti-government rallies."

According to Lt. Col. Than Tun, the National League for Democracy political party allowed student unionists, including Min Ko Naing and Ko Ko Gyi of the illegal All Burma Students Union, to make derogatory speeches against the military and government at six locations between March 16-20.

Observers said there had been increased student unrest since March 13, when hundreds of people turned up at campuses and other venues to hold anniversary rallies in defiance of military orders banning public gatherings.

Lt. Col. Than Tun warned that these acts were not only in direct contravention of the prevailing ban on public gatherings but had also "created disunity within the military and caused misunderstanding between the military and the people."

He said these actions must cease or the responsible persons or parties must bear the consequences.

"We (the military) have no desire to shoot, but at the same time we do not intend to let anarchy prevail again," Lt. Col. Than Tun said, adding that rumors were rife that dissidents plan to disrupt the "Armed Forces Day" celebration.

Student leaders including Ko Ko Gyi and Aung Din who feared that they would be arrested before Monday "as a preventive measure" are demanding the release of Min Ko Naing, who was detained on Thursday, as well as 14 others taken in earlier.

Authorities Friday emphasised that only those who violated the ban on public gatherings and those sowing dissension need fear official action.

"The public has had enough unrest and we intend to see it does not get out of hand," authorities warned.

More Student Disturbances Reported 25 Mar
BK2503142589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
1330 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] At 1335 today about 100 students—of whom 20 came out of the compound of the National League for Democracy at No 54/56 on University Avenue and were joined by 80 students who arrived from nearby areas—carrying a flag bearing the fighting peacock [symbol of the student movement] chanted antigovernment slogans and marched from the front of the National League for Democracy office along University Avenue.

At about 1340 security units in the nearby area stopped and dispersed the group. Some from the group fled into the compound of the National League for Democracy while others fled into the compound of the residence of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at No 44 University Avenue.

Khin Maung Kyi, alias Maung Lay, son of U Ein Sun, and Tin Htwe, son of U Kyaw Than, who created the disturbances were detained by the security units.

Before creating disturbances and shouting slogans, the students while gathering in front of the National League for Democracy stopped a passenger bus with plate number Htasindu/2622—a Tamwe-Insein route passenger bus—and removed and threw away a small Union of Burma flag and a resistance flag which were put up for the Armed Forces Day.

National Armed Forces Day Celebrated

Parade Held in Rangoon
BK2703022489

[Editorial Report] Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese at 0000 GMT on 27 March begins carrying live coverage of the 44th national armed forces day parade from Resistance Park in Rangoon.

The announcer opens the broadcast by noting the significance of Burmese Armed Forces day, which marks the beginning of the resistance movement against the fascists by the late General Aung San. He then reports that Defense Forces units composed of 3,308 soldiers have begun marching from Maidan Field toward Resistance Park in five columns named after famous national

heroes—Anawratha, Kyansitha, Bayinnaung, Aung Zeya, and Aung San—and that they are being hailed with flowers and applause by the people en route. The announcer describes the scene in Resistance Park, which is decorated with colorful flowers, many Burmese flags, and decorative arches, all against the background of the historical Shwedagon Pagoda.

At 0020 the announcer declares that the Anawratha military column has arrived in Resistance Park. Soldiers are heard singing military songs in the background as the announcer describes the composition of the column from various military units. At 0025 the Kyansitha military column enters Resistance Park. The Bayinnaung, Aung Zeya, and Aun San columns follow.

At 0043 the announcer notes that invited guests, including members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, the chief justice, the attorney general, foreign military attaches, and other dignitaries, are seen seated on the dais.

At 0044 the parade commander is heard shouting orders to the troops to take their position in the parade ground in the park. Continuing his commentary, the announcer recalls the history of the Defense Forces and its outstanding contributions in crushing the insurgents and its role as caretaker government during the 1958-59 political crisis.

At 0100, the announcer reports the arrival of General Saw Maung, Defense Forces chief of staff, who takes his seat on the dais. Gen Saw Maung then receives the salute from the troops and inspects the troops in the parade ground. At 0110 the troops and the guests salute the national flag, the fallen national leaders, and Defense Forces members. The troops are then heard taking the four oaths of allegiance.

At 1115 Gen Saw Maung begins to deliver a speech commemorating the 44th national armed forces day. He begins by describing the significance of the day, which marks the beginning of the resistance movement by the Defense Forces together with the people in the country. He describes the three major tasks of the Defense Forces—"national defense and security," "maintenance of law and order and holding of multiparty democratic elections, and the maintenance of the unity of the Defense Forces—and recalls the historic role of the Defense Forces in defending the country's independence and sovereignty. He says the country's sovereignty is currently being endangered by the Burma Communist Party, Kachin Independence Army, and Karen National Unity and that the Defense Forces are defending the country with their lives and are being supported by the people in their endeavor. He says it is necessary that the indigenous people of the union maintain national unity and that we must not allow the country to disintegrate. He calls on the people to remove the internal and external danger.

Continuing his speech, Gen Saw Maung recalls the anarchy, the destruction of state property, and the attempts to destroy the unity of the Defense Forces following the disturbances in the country during July, August, and September of 1988 and the subsequent assumption of power by the Defense Forces. He says some countries and people are accusing the Defense Forces of crushing the people just as they were about to achieve democracy. He calls on the members of the defense forces to give active support to the law and order restoration councils, to help facilitate transportation, to contribute to successful holding of multiparty general elections, to fight the insurgents and to act according to law. He says members of the Defense Forces and public servants must not be involved in politics, but they can freely vote when the general elections are held. He says the Defense Forces must take care not to side with any one party. He says once the elections are held and a new government is formed with members of the people's assembly, the soldiers will return to the barracks.

Saw Maung then continues, saying the recent events have shown that the Defense Forces must remain united despite instigations by unscrupulous elements and that the unity of the defense forces are appreciated by the people. He calls on the members of the Defense Forces to sustain and improve the three skills for military, administration, and unity.

Gen Saw Maung concludes his speech at 1146 GMT.

Resuming his commentary, the announcer describes the troops taking orders from their commanders to salute Gen Saw Maung. At 0150 the troops salute Gen Saw Maung as they march out of the Resistance Park parade ground singing martial songs.

At 0212 Gen Saw Maung leaves the parade grounds in his car. The live coverage ends at 0213 GMT.

Saw Maung Gives Speech

*BK2703043589 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese
0115 GMT 27 Mar 89*

[Speech by General Saw Maung, Defense Forces Chief of Staff, delivered at the 44th Armed Forces Day parade at Rangoon's Resistance Park—live]

[Text] Comrades: Today marks the 44th Resistance Day—the Armed Forces Day—an auspicious event which commemorates the beginning of the resistance movement jointly started by Burma's Defense Forces and people on 27 March 1945 to drive out the fascists. At this place 44 years ago, the father of our Defense Forces and the national leader, General Aung San, gave a historic speech to members of the Defense Forces who were about to leave on their military mission. At this historically significant place and time, I would like to solemnly address members of our Defense Forces on our role and major tasks.

Comrades, the first of the three major tasks of our Armed Forces is the national defense and security. Our Defense Forces [as heard] stand in the community of the world as an independent nation for thousands of years. Ours is a country which existed gloriously with its own kings and courts through Tagaung, Srikshetra, Pagan, Myinsaing, Sagaing, Pinya, Ava, and Konbaung periods.

Looking back at the history of our country, we emerged as a military power in Asia when there was correct leadership of the leaders and unity of the people. However, toward the end of the 19th century we were repeatedly subjected to aggression of the capitalist-imperialists who, with their weapons, took advantage of the internal instabilities, and on 1 January 1886 our country's independence and sovereignty was lost and we became slaves. Our indigenous national people sacrificed their lives and bravely waged the struggle to regain our independence. The peak of the independence struggle was between the Second World War and the postwar period.

During the struggle our Defense Forces, made up of sons and daughters of the indigenous national people, were formed under the leadership the Thirty Comrades, including Gen Aung San. In other words, our Defense Forces were born during the period of struggle for independence, and throughout history, we had always defended and safeguarded the interests of the indigenous national people. Therefore, at present, we have the major responsibility to defend and safeguard the country's sovereignty and independence which were achieved after sacrificing the lives, sweat, and blood of the patriotic martyrs.

Comrades, I would like to remind you specially that at present the infringement of and threat to the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity still exist. The Burma Communist Party [BCP] insurgents, who betray the national cause and insurgents, such as the Karen National Union [KNU] who have become an instrument of foreign elements based at border areas, are carrying out activities to undermine the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. Under these circumstances, members of our Defense Forces are giving up their lives and are brilliantly fighting to safeguard the motherland's independence and territorial integrity. The people who are honest, logical, and vigilant appreciate the loyalty and responsibility of our Defense Forces toward the country; and the people, as you all know, are supporting and honoring the Defense Forces in various ways.

The love and goodwill of the indigenous people toward members of our Defense Forces are inspiring our Defense Forces to brilliantly wage the struggle with their spirit of sacrifice. Comrades, the most important requirement for our country's lasting independence is the maintenance of unity among all national indigenous people in the country without suspicion of one another. The indigenous ethnic people, who are brothers and sisters, lived in unity for hundreds and thousands of years. It is evident in the chapters of our history that our

ethnic people joined together in struggle in times of national emergencies. Presently, our ethnic people are joining our Defense Forces in fighting and crushing the enemies of the country—the destructive BCP, KNU, and the Kachin Independence Army [KIA] insurgents.

All national indigenous people of our country must remain united and consolidated to safeguard the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. If the national unity of the indigenous people disintegrates the country will crumble. We must firmly believe that we will never accept the disintegration of the unity of the indigenous people. The unity of the indigenous people is as important as the life of the country. We must not lose sight of the national unity which is the very soul of the country and must defend and safeguard it forever.

All patriotic and nationalistic people must remove any acts and plans aimed at undermining the national unity. We shall not allow our motherland, which has been established through various eras of Anawratha, Kyansittha, Bayinnaung, Alaungpaya, Sinbyushin [Burmese kings] and General Aung San to disintegrate during our times.

It is a major historic duty conferred upon the indigenous national people and our Defense Forces to strive jointly and firmly to repulse and remove internal and external threats against the country and to ensure the country's lasting sovereignty.

Comrades, the second important task for our Defense Forces is to restore the law and order in the state and to hold multiparty democratic general elections. Because some unscrupulous elements took advantage of the demands for democratic rights during July, August, and September of 1988, undesirable conditions arose in the country and the majority of the indigenous people suffered from that bitter experience. There was rampant anarchy, and law and order was almost nonexistent. The indigenous national people were subjected to intimidation, terrorism, looting, and some innocent people subjected to killing. Raw materials and finished products from state enterprises and millions of kyats worth of assets of state factories and mills were looted and destroyed by destructive elements. As the civil disturbances grew, transport and communications were disrupted. Furthermore, some unscrupulous elements through various means and instigations tried to divide our Defense Forces.

As the conditions deteriorated on all fronts in the country, internal and external subversive elements infiltrated the country to the extent the country's independence and sovereignty were in peril. Therefore, our Defense Forces had no other choice but to control the deteriorating situation in time. With the foresight and knowledge of the imminent danger to the country we discharged our duty to safeguard and protect the life, property, and homes of the majority of the people. However, some countries and unscrupulous elements, who bore grudge because they could not pull our strings according to their

wishes and wanted to intervene in our internal affairs, claimed our Defense Forces crushed the people with weapons just as democracy was about to be achieved. They resorted to various means to create disunity between our Defense Forces and the people. They also spread false reports and rumors to create suspicions among the people about the Defense Forces and distributed propaganda materials and divisive literature to create disintegration within the Defense Forces. Because of these conditions the State Law and Order Restoration Council was formed and the organization's four objectives and tasks were announced.

The four tasks are: 1) prevalence of law and order and local peace and tranquility; 2) smooth and secure transport and communications; 3) alleviation of the people's needs for food, clothes, and shelter and assistance to private and cooperative sectors; and 4) holding of multiparty democratic general elections.

Comrades, I would like to describe in brief your role in relation to the tasks of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. All members of the Defense Forces are to actively give support to the law and order restoration councils which are striving to establish law and order and peace and tranquillity in the country. Members of the Defense Forces are to valiantly struggle in fighting the destructive insurgents. They are also to give assistance to local organizations concerned in their work in exposing and smashing above-ground saboteurs who are agents, spies, and henchmen of the insurgents.

It is necessary that they act according to law in all undertakings. Our Defense Forces never act without restraint in our actions in taking care of our country. We have amended outdated laws, and I would urge you to act according to existing laws in discharging our duties. We have also tried to ensure smooth and secure transport and communications. As the land, air, and water transports become normal and the flow of commodities become smooth, the people's need for food, clothes, and shelter will be alleviated. Therefore, comrades, you must participate in providing security to communications routes and centers. While efforts are being made to meet the people's need for food, clothes, and shelter, assistance is being provided as much as possible to the cooperative and private sectors.

Comrades, the Elections Commission composed of persons respected by the country has been formed to hold multiparty democratic general elections. As you know, the Elections Commission, on its part, has been carrying out all the work it should be doing. The Draft [Election] Law was announced on 1 March 1989, and suggestions from the people and political parties which will be contesting in the elections are being solicited.

Once the parliamentary democracy system is practiced all public servants, including members of our Defense Forces, shall not be involved with any political party. All public servants, including members of the Defense

Forces, should not be connected with political parties and should not take sides with and/or give support to any party, but must remain impartial. They should strive to perform their duties toward the country which is their main task. However, during the elections members of the Defense Forces and public servants shall have the right to vote freely for candidates of their choice. Public servants, including the Defense Forces, shall discharge their duties toward the country—which is more noble than party politics—and without reservations serve national interests efficiently according to law as much as their physical and mental abilities allow. Only when public servants are separated from party politics and observe their rules will they be able to carry out their tasks toward the country unitedly and successfully under any circumstances and will the unity among the public servants be ensured.

Therefore, from here I would like to tell the comrades that they are to efficiently carry out the security duties assigned them by their superiors for the successful holding of multiparty democratic general elections. No members of our Defense Forces or the public service should join or get involved in any political party. They must take special care so as not to assist, support, or side with any political party. We must act like an impartial judge to ensure the holding of multiparty democratic general elections which are fair.

Reviewing our past history, we can see that the insurgents in the jungle have terrorized and blackmailed the indigenous national people in areas accessible to them to ensure the success of the organization they favored. The people were unable to practice their democratic rights peacefully and freely as they voted under intimidation. In view of these past events, our Defense Forces must be more vigilant in providing security so that the insurgents will not be able to interfere and intimidate in the forthcoming general elections.

As conditions improve on all fronts, genuinely fair multiparty democratic general elections will be held nationwide except in areas where there is no security due to insurgency. After the necessary work has been carried out following the elections, a new government will be formed in accordance with the law by members of the People's Assembly elected by the people. We hope that this new government will be able to best serve the interests of the people as they continue to lead the country. As for members of our Defense Forces, we will return to the barracks and continue relentlessly to carry out our original duties, which I mentioned earlier.

Comrades, as you know, political parties with various outlooks, principles, and ideologies will continue to exist in the future as at present. Our Defense Forces will remain impartial without taking sides, stay away from party politics, and remain united while carrying out our original duties.

The third major duty is to ensure the lasting unity of our Defense Forces and to sustain and promote the three abilities. It is evident that a country can safeguard its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity only when it has strong defense forces. Our country continues to exist without disintegration because our Defense Forces have remained united, loyal, and brave from the day of their inception.

When our country was newly independent some 40 years ago, the insurgent organizations of various hues outnumbered our Defense Forces. During 1948-49, there were over 30,000 insurgents, including 12,000 KNDO [Karen National Defense Organization], over 10,000 White and Red Communists, over 9,000 members of People's Volunteers Organization, and over 2,000 Mujahid and Mon insurgents. During that time, our Defense Forces had only about 10 regiments composed of indigenous national people. However, because of the support from the indigenous people and perseverance, determination, loyalty, and bravery, we were able to repulse and crush these insurgents.

Presently, our Defense Forces' strength has grown by over 20 times while the enemy's strength has dwindled and they have taken shelter in the remote border areas of the country, as you know, comrades. Moreover, as the indigenous people came to know about the nature of the insurgents they have increasingly joined our Defense Forces in waging the struggle. That is why the delta area has become a white area [area free of insurgency] and insurgents do not dare to put a foot in the Pegu Yoma area. However, since conditions in the country are changing very fast I would like to warn you to remain vigilant without being lax and to monitor and assess developments hourly so as to be prepared to face up to any eventual dangers that may emerge.

Comrades, past events have shown that our Defense Forces are united. No matter how unscrupulous persons have tried to divide us, we the members of the Defense Forces remain convinced that the Defense Forces are our mother and father and that we were able to save the country from the danger of falling into the abyss by unitedly rallying around our cherished Defense Forces.

Comrades, by our deeds we have been able to prove that members of our Defense Forces are patriots who have sacrificed their lives in defending and safeguarding the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity throughout history just as they have been defending and safeguarding the lives, property, and home and prestige and honor of the indigenous people. Because of this, the indigenous people are wholeheartedly and continuously supporting and honoring the Defense Forces. In other words, as the people come to recognize and respect the unity of our Defense Forces, they rely on us more. As they receive the people's honor and support, it is necessary for Defense Forces members to acknowledge that their spirit is higher and that their duty toward the defense of the country is greater.

Soldiers: The three essential attributes of the Defense Forces—military skill, administrative capability, and unity within the Defense Forces—must always be promoted. In order to enhance military skills, you must strive to study military science in the military academies, and grasp the slogan: Train while fighting, and fight while training. You must always be training for battles and reviewing the outcome after battles, then make changes and improvements and undergo training wherever necessary.

The key reason that we were victorious in the fight for independence by dealing a heavy blow to an enemy that was superior in manpower and in weaponry was because we stood for the right cause with a patriotic spirit and because we were systematically trained. Hence, with a mind of steel, we must always give priority to training courses designed for privates and higher ranks as well as to preparations before battles. At the same time we must always foster and nurture the 10 strengths [no further explanation] of the Defense Forces. **Soldiers:** we must also train ourselves so that military affairs and administrative matters concerning the Defense Forces can be performed systematically and dynamically. In the same way that those with less experience should learn from the experienced, those with experience should teach those with less experience. Knowledge is something that we should not keep to ourselves; since it is inexhaustible, those who are teaching should teach everything they know and those at the receiving end should try to grasp everything being taught.

In order to strengthen unity within the Defense Forces, we must continue the good practices of sounding out opinions within the Defense Forces and solving problems, doing all things with discipline, and constantly promoting the welfare of soldiers and their dependents in accordance with rules and regulations.

Moreover, it is also essential to squash through truth the rumors spread at home and abroad by unscrupulous people and foreign sources. Trust your own feelings and what those around you say, and not outsiders. Trust the words of your commanders—your superiors who fight shoulder to shoulder with you in times of weal and woe.

Commanders at all levels must also correctly study the factual conditions that are changing from day to day, and they must ensure that the men under them adopt the correct thinking and belief by constantly organizing them and having discussions with them. Moreover, in the same way as good parents provide protection, commanders must protect and help those in the lower ranks.

Soldiers: On the 44th anniversary of the Armed Forces Day, I profoundly urge all personnel of the Defense Forces to strive with determination to prevent the Union and the national unity from disintegrating, to perpetuate the sovereignty of the nation, to responsibly carry out our main tasks of providing national security and defending the nation, to restore law and order in the

nation, to successfully carry out the responsibilities that will be bestowed upon us in the holding of democratic multiparty general elections, and to promote the qualities of the Defense Forces so that the eternal unity of our Defense Forces will be strengthened.

In doing so, we must be vigilant, definitive, and correct. We must not delay and instead must be fast in action because changes are so fast that they are taking place in a matter of days or even hours.

Let me conclude by saying that in order to ensure that our targeted tasks are successfully accomplished, efforts must be made by accepting the correct leadership of superiors and with a pledge that come rain or shine they shall be seen through to the end.

'Tight Security' at Parade

BK2703113389 Hong Kong AFP in English 1123 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Excerpts] Rangoon, March 27 (AFP)—Burmese junta leader Saw Maung celebrated Armed Forces Day Monday by restating his pledge to hold multi-party general elections while continuing to defend and safeguard the state.

At an elaborate military parade here General Saw Maung exhorted the army, which took power in a September 18 coup, to be ever-vigilant against "external as well as internal enemies of the state." [passage omitted]

The country's 44th Armed Forces Day ceremony, held under tight security, ended without any incidents despite threats of disruption by dissident students. Roads to the park where the ceremony was held were sealed off.

Hundreds of officers and guests had gathered inside the flag-bedecked "Resistance Park" west of Burma's famous Buddhist shrine, the Shwedagon Pagoda for the celebration.

Resident foreign military attaches including those from the United States, Soviet Union, China and Japan also attended the parade, which featured more than 3,000 soldiers. [passage omitted]

More Details Reported

BK2703145789 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1400 GMT 27 Mar 89

[From the "Current World Affairs" Program]

[Text] Correspondent (Cathy Evans) from the BBC's Far East Unit has filed the following report on Burma:

Today, 27th March, is Armed Forces Day of Burma. Tight security measures were enforced in Rangoon. A heavy army presence was in evidence in the capital, and Western observers say that attendance at the armed forces day celebrations was smaller than in previous years.

Only very carefully screened people were permitted to attend the Armed Forces Day parade, and those at the event appeared to be well rehearsed. On the other hand, it was also reported that authorities concerned organized buses and taxis to fly flags, and those flying flags were able to buy gasoline.

According to some reports, it is understood that the residence of U Nu, the chairman of the opposition League for Democracy and Peace, was surrounded by troops. According to a diplomat, a gun shot was heard from near U Nu's house.

Some Western observers say that earlier some government troops surrounded Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy and arrested two students.

According to a news report by the government, 2 days ago, when some students were staging an antigovernment protest, some students came out of the league's headquarters to join in that protest. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi however refuted the charges by government newspapers that her party was trying to divide the people and the army.

Unconfirmed reports say that about 1,000 students staged a peaceful protest in Mandalay today. The protest was said to have ended peacefully.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Briefs International Groups on Stand

BBK2603105389 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 2300 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] On the afternoon of 23 March at the office of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Hun Sen, People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] Council of Ministers chairman and foreign minister, granted an audience to the representatives of the following nongovernmental international organizations stationed in Cambodia: AFSC [American Friends Service Committee]; ARC [American Refugee Committee], CIDSE [International Cooperation for Development and Economic Solidarity], CWS [Church World Service], LWS [Lutheran World Service], MCC [Mennonite Central Committee], Oxfam [charity organization], (Fadec), (Zango), JVC [Japan International Volunteer Center], Redd Barna [of Norway], and WCC [World Council of Churches].

Also present at the meeting were Comrades Cham Prasit, deputy minister attached to the Council of Ministers and Bo Rasi and Long Visalo, both PRK deputy foreign ministers.

On that occasion, Comrade Hun Sen heartily thanked the representatives of the international organizations which have provided assistance to the Cambodian people and considered this a precious contribution to the rebuilding of Cambodia. The assistance has helped Cambodia during the economic sanctions which were purportedly implemented to condemn the poor. During the

severing of relations with Cambodia implemented by a number of countries, this assistance bound the friendly relations between those countries and Cambodia.

The chairman also briefed the guests on the PRK's present socioeconomic and political situation. In the political field, the comrade pointed out that a number of countries have maintained a just position on preventing Pol Pot from regaining power in Cambodia, but they still have made strategic mistakes in providing military aid to Sihanouk's and Son Sann's groups which have been in close collaboration with the Pol Pot group in fighting the PRK, the sole opposition against Pol Pot. As for the settlement of the Cambodian problem, there were several forums, including the following four most important ones:

1. The forum of Cambodia's internal affairs is decisive on a settlement of the Cambodian problem. If all the Cambodian parties cannot compromise, no other forum can be useful for solving the Cambodian problem.

With Cambodia's internal aspect, the chairman said that the Hun Sen-Sihanouk forum is the only one of vital importance. The Khmer Rouge is just an impediment to successful negotiations. He highlighted the obstructions mounted by the Khmer Rouge at the meetings in Indonesia and Paris.

2. The regional [word indistinct] forum is important for a solution to the international aspect of the Cambodian problem and will bring peace to the region. An international conference on Cambodia is only possible with the success gained from this forum.

3. The third forum is meetings between superpowers. Hun Sen welcomed summit meetings between the superpowers to create favorable conditions to settle regional conflicts, but stressed that those meetings are neither a determining factor nor a key to resolving the Cambodian problem. The Sihanoukist group and the tripartite coalition seem to be waiting for the Soviet-Chinese meeting. The Council of Ministers chairman pointed out that Samdech Sihanouk has his own answer but is waiting for other people's answers.

4. The fourth forum is the forum among the nonaligned countries. Comrade Hun Sen did not dismiss a future international conference on Cambodia but said it was necessary that the conference be well prepared in order to score successful results. There are two key elements in the settlement of the Cambodian problem—the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops and the prevention of the return of the Pol Pot regime, and the end of foreign aid to prevent the eruption of a civil war in Cambodia.

With regard to the prevention of the Pol Pot group from returning to Cambodia, five measures should be implemented: disarm the traitorous Pol Pot group; immediately stop providing military and financial assistance

and safe haven to them; compel them to unveil their caches of arms; condemn the criminal core leaders; and bar the Pol Pot group from using refugee camps for military purposes.

In the settlement of the Cambodian problem, the coalition demands the dissolution of the PRK and the establishment of a quadripartite government with political and military competency. This is absolutely unacceptable to us because it will favor Pol Pot's return and begin a civil war in the heart of the capital city. Moreover, the dismantling of the PRK is a gross violation of the Cambodian people's right to self-determination. The Cambodian people must have their sacred rights to choose, through elections, Cambodian leaders.

Concerning the economic development program in Cambodia, Comrade Hun Sen appreciated the socioeconomic development plan mapped out by the nongovernmental groups as having long-term interest. He welcomed the participation of foreign socioeconomic development experts to help the PRK.

In her reply, Mrs (Eva Niolevik), representative of (Fadec), expressed profound thanks on behalf of all the Phnom Penh-based international organizations, to the Council of Ministers chairman who had given a substantial briefing on the current situation in Cambodia. She added that since 1986, nongovernmental international organizations have had five meetings during which ways to bring about peace in Cambodia and help restore the development of the country's economy were discussed. A book entitled "Punishing the Poor" is opposed to countries implementing sanctions against Cambodia, and calls for humanitarian aid to the country.

Chea Soth Addresses Anniversary Rally
BK2503042689 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Address by Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Political Bureau member Chea Soth, at a rally to mark the 10th anniversary of Laotian-Kampuchean cooperation and the 34th anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, at the Basak Festival Hall in Phnom Penh—recorded]

[Summary from poor reception] A meeting was solemnly held in Phnom Penh on the morning of 24 March at the Basak festival hall to mark the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK] and the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the 34th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP].

"Attending the meeting were, on the Cambodian side, Comrade Chea Soth, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the

Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Nguon Nhel, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee; Comrade General Tie Banh, alternate member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and defense minister; Comrade Mean Sam-an, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Women's Association; and Comrade Sam Sundoeun, member of the party Central Committee, first secretary of the central committee of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Youth Union, and chairman of the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association. On the Lao side was Comrade Bounmi Ouppalavong, acting charge d'affaires of the LPDR Embassy to Cambodia."

After the national anthems of the two countries were played and after paying homage to the souls of fallen cadres and combatants, Chea Soth read a speech from which this is an excerpt.

[Begin Chea Soth recording] Today is an auspicious and happy day full of profound sentiments of the fraternal Cambodian and Lao people. We meet today to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the PRK and the LPDR, 22-3-79 - 22-3-89, and also the 34th founding anniversary of the glorious LPRP, 22-3-1955 - 22-3-1989.

Cambodia and Laos are neighboring countries. The two people have similar traditions; they have stood united and carried out mutual assistance over a long period, particularly since the beginning of the 20th century when Marxism-Leninism came to Indochina through Chairman Ho Chi Minh, eminent leader, who brought it to the three nations. At that time, the three nations arrived at a historic turning point under the light of Marxism-Leninism. Under the leadership of the Indochinese Communist Party [ICP] in particular, the tradition of being united and providing assistance to one another has moved into a new phase in which the effort of the three nation's became a common struggle full of sacrifices in flesh and blood against old and new colonialists. Through this struggle, each country's revolutionary movement developed further, leading to the birth of a party in each country to respond to the situation. It also led the three nation's struggle into a new quality based on the spirit of continuing the ICP's tradition of courageous and valiant struggle.

The LPRP was born on 23-3-1955 to continue its brilliant cause to lead the revolution from one victory to another, completely liberate the country from the yoke of old and new colonialism, and open a new era—that of independence, freedom, and socialism—for the Lao nation. Our Cambodian people consider the victory and happiness of the Lao people as our own.

Dear comrades: Ten years have gone by. It is a short period in the rebirth of our Cambodian people, who have been massacred by the Pol Pot clique which plunged the nation into a disaster unprecedented in mankind's history. Our recent 10th anniversary celebration clearly showed the great achievements scored by our people in the past 10 years although the enemies have made efforts to use every maneuver to destroy us in every field and through every form. Under the party's leadership, we have managed to defend revolutionary gains and the people's peaceful lives. The Cambodian revolution has the edge and its revolutionary forces are moving toward fully assuming every revolutionary task. The people's lives are being increasingly stabilized and improved both morally and materially. The economy is moving along a new direction appropriate to the situation in the country and of the people. The improvement of a number of policies of the party and state in particular has been welcomed by the people and is being gradually implemented.

Recent developments in the international situation have created favorable conditions in the cause of Cambodian independence and peace. The tendency toward dialogue and reconciliation in the region is developing. Countries have a better understanding of one another. Peace is the hunger of the Cambodian people. From this, our party and state have put forward a national reconciliation policy and successive proposals. With patience, we have taken part in negotiations with other parties aimed at quickly ending the tragedy, rift, and conflict among ourselves in order to pool our resources to build a peaceful, independent, and democratic country with sovereignty, neutrality, and nonalignment. Through this, we have received support from public opinions in and out of the country. The PRK's prestige has been heightened. The maneuvers by the other side to prolong the war have been exposed and denounced by public opinions. The genocidal Pol Pot clique has been increasingly isolated. Demands have been made to prevent this clique's return.

Our achievements cannot be separated from the assistance of friends the world over, particularly the effective and timely assistance of the fraternal Lao party and people, who have constantly supported our correct struggle. This is the result of the agreement on economic, cultural, scientific, and technical cooperation between the PRK and the LPDR.

On this 10th commemorative anniversary, on behalf of the Cambodian party, government, and people, I would like to express, once again, profound gratitude for the great assistance of the fraternal Lao party, government, and people. Also on this anniversary, we are even happier because the prestige of our two countries, Cambodia and Laos, as well as that of Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, has been heightened. The militant solidarity and the cooperation between our two parties and people, and among our three parties and people, as well as the cooperation with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries have been increased and with highest efficiency.

Realizing these results and victories, we are even more profoundly grateful to great Chairman Ho Chi Minh, founder of the party, who paved the way for the three countries, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, to win victories, and who nurtured the relations of solidarity and friendship among our three nations and left us a tradition of courageous and valiant struggle.

Dear comrades and friends: In their setbacks our enemies, particularly the Cambodian reactionaries, have not yet given up their war-mongering maneuvers to topple the PRK. They still attempt to weaken our revolutionary forces and break the Cambodia-Laos cooperation, as well as that of Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam, and the relations of solidarity in order to create conditions for wars, change our regime, and again lead our country into genocide. The decision to set up a high council for national defense of the tripartite group in particular is evidence of an act running counter to the Cambodian people's goodwill and aspiration. In any case, the reactionary enemies will certainly be defeated in the near future. The Cambodian people will vigorously strive to prevent the genocidal danger from threatening us again.

Faced with this situation, the task to defend revolutionary gains and build the Cambodian motherland is a major one for our nation. It requires all the strength of our cadres, party members, combatants, and Cambodian people and masses to uphold the will to fight and overcome obstacles. We should increase the sense of responsibility; expand the right to be masters in every field on the basis of great and lofty national unity and internal unity; and expand the self-reliance spirit by daring to think and do and be responsible and combine this with the international solidarity to more vigorously create common achievements in the cause of the nation and motherland and make all preparations to implementing well the resolutions of the second congress of cadres throughout the country, which will be held shortly.

We should pledge to carry out the following tasks:

1. Continue to expand the advantage over the enemies on every battlefield and continue to thwart every form of their destructive maneuvers.
2. Continue to build real revolutionary forces in every field and ensure firm and genuine political capability and quality. We should be clear and always remember that the decisive factor for the revolution's final victory is strong and firm revolutionary forces in every field. This is the most essential factor to ensure the defense and safeguard our revolutionary gains in every circumstance.
3. Vigorously promote the ideological task to improve the quality of cooperation in the revolutionary cause.
4. Promote the implementation of the 1989 economic and social tasks as stipulated in the plan, and
5. Constantly strengthen the special Cambodia-Laos-Vietnam alliance, the relations of solidarity and friendship and the cooperation among the three countries with the Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries. This is

in order to firmly defend the motherland and the revolutionary gains, and to build our Cambodian motherland through promoting the political and diplomatic struggle for the people and the motherland, the PRK.

To achieve these five tasks, the most important factor is that all cadres, party members, and combatants should heighten their sense of responsibility toward the motherland and people; make efforts to study and raise their all-round capability; and temper themselves in the revolutionary way of life in every task assigned by the party and people. All of us are optimistic and firmly believe that due to our past 10 years' precious lessons, to the party's united force, to the close and unbreakable relationship between the party and the masses, and due to the powerful international solidarity, Cambodia's precious revolutionary cause will certainly win in the end.

Long live the relations of solidarity and friendship and all-round cooperation among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. May they last forever. [applause]
Long live the KPRP. [applause] [end recording].

More Youths Join Army in Kompong Speu Province
BK2603142889 *Phnom Penh Domestic Service*
in *Cambodian* 1300 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Excerpt] In the first 2 months of this year, 291 youths in Kompong Speu Province volunteered to serve in the army. At the same time, those on the rear battlefields actively engaged in the emulation movement of national defense and construction. [passage omitted]

VODK Discusses Rumored Hun Sen Hanoi Visit
BK2603095689 (*Clandestine*) *Voice of Democratic Kampuchea* in *Cambodian* 2330 GMT 25 Mar 89

["Short commentary:" "The Voice of the Puppets Is That of the Vietnamese; There Is No Difference at All"]

[Text] A couple of days ago, we heard a rumor that Vietnamese puppet Hun Sen went to Hanoi to ask Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia by the end of 1989. Such a suggestion displays, on the one hand, gross ignorance of the true nature of the Vietnamese puppets in Phnom Penh and, on the other, an attempt to portray Vietnam in a good light and boost the influence of the puppets in Phnom Penh.

In fact, the Vietnamese puppets in Phnom Penh and the Vietnamese are no different from one another. The voice of the puppets is that of the Vietnamese themselves. The so-called puppet Heng Samrin-Hun Sen government is in reality an aggressor Vietnamese government directly occupied and managed by more than 50,000 Vietnamese administrative agents functioning in all fields, from the offices and ministries in Phnom Penh down to the village and commune administrations. As for the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen puppets, they wield no power in this aggressor Vietnamese administration. They themselves are under

the direct control and manipulation of these same Vietnamese administrative agents who are occupying Cambodia. The main role of these puppets is to act as dumb parrots for the Vietnamese; they say whatever the Vietnamese want them. Therefore, if the Vietnamese had anything for puppet Hun Sen to say at all, the Vietnamese administrators in Phnom Penh would have ordered him to say his lines or would have written it down for him to recite. Hun Sen does not need to go and ask permission from the Hanoi leaders, for the Vietnamese who are governing Cambodia regularly receive orders from the Hanoi authorities.

Therefore, the news that puppet Hun Sen went to Hanoi to ask Vietnam to pull out of Cambodia is merely a misunderstanding or an unintentional publicity boost for Vietnam. Even if puppet Hun Sen really went to Hanoi, he did so not to ask Vietnam to withdraw; he went there because Hanoi ordered him to in order to further indoctrinate him in Indochinese federation theory so that this puppet will continue to serve their aggressive policy in Cambodia.

This is the true nature of the Vietnamese puppets in Phnom Penh. They have no sense of becoming independent from Vietnam, nor do they care for the Cambodian nation and race.

Land Mine Kills Major General in Battambang
BK2603070089 (*Clandestine*) *Voice of the Khmer*
in *Cambodian* 0430 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Text] According to a report of the general staff of [Son Sann's] Khmer People's National Liberation Army [KPNLA], recently a jeep of Heng Samrin soldiers ran over a land mine of the KPNLA in Battambang Province, causing three fatalities among the soldiers, including a major general, a general staff officer, and a driver.

The report said that this jeep ran over a land mine planted by combatants of the KPNLA 6th military zone on route 5 near Turnop Kandal village, Battambang Province, on 11 March. It was further revealed that the slain Heng Samrin major general's name was Hul Savoan [commander of 196th Division and 4th Military Region in northwestern Cambodia].

Laos

Parliamentary Elections Held, 1st Since 1975

Kaysone Casts Ballots

BK2603060689 *Vientiane Domestic Service* in *Lao*
0500 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Text] National radio correspondent Sangkhan Choungkhamphan reports that party and state leaders have cast ballots at various polling stations in Vientiane Municipality in the election of people's representatives at the central level.

General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane arrived at polling station No 5 at (Pak Sang) village of Sikhottabong District at 1000 today. After casting his ballot, he granted an interview with both Lao and foreign reporters in which he outlined the significance of the election. He also had a cordial chat with the people and visited model families that are well-known for their economic success.

Kaysone Denies He Will Retire

BK2603092689 Hong Kong AFP in English 0912 GMT
26 Mar 89

[By Charles Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Vientiane, March 26 (AFP)—The communist leaders of Laos pledged here Sunday to maintain their policy of opening up to the West as the country went to the polls to elect a parliament for the first time in 14 years.

The elections for 79 seats in the People's Supreme Assembly were the first parliamentary elections since the 1975 communist takeover in this landlocked country, one of the world's poorest.

Laotian Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihane, who is concurrently the leader of the communist party, and acting state president Phoumi Vongvichit, meeting foreign correspondents after they had voted, dismissed recent reports in Thai newspapers that a government reshuffle would take place after the election.

"I will not retire because the people will not let me go," Mr Kaysone, 69, said, commenting on the reports that he would leave the premiership.

Mr Phoumi, 79, who had also been rumoured as possibly stepping down, insisted that "there would be absolutely no change" in either government or communist party leadership.

Neither Mr Kaysone or Mr Phoumi, who both appeared relaxed when they met separately with journalists, a highly unusual occurrence in Laos, were running in the election.

They stressed that the main policy guidelines in following the path of economic reforms to encourage the development of the private sector and start opening up Laos to neighbouring Thailand and the United States, France and other western countries would be maintained following the election.

The two Laotian leaders said that drafting and adopting a constitution would be the main task of the new assembly.

The assembly, elected for five years, is to replace the outgoing assembly comprising 43 members who were appointed when the communists seized power in 1975, putting an end to a coalition government of pro-Western leaders.

Laos has had no constitution since 1975, when Vietnam and Cambodia also fell to nationalist communist uprisings against U.S.-backed governments.

A total of 121 candidates were running in Sunday's election in Laos, which has 1.8 million voters out of a population of 3.8 million.

Foreign correspondents were taken to four polling stations, also catching a rare glimpse of Prince Souphanouvong, 79, the ailing president of Laos whose poor health led in 1986 to the appointment of Mr Phoumi as acting president.

Western diplomats described the parliament-to-be as a rubber stamp institution, but said a national assembly would help Laos reach out to the West for much-needed aid.

"One of the conditions that had to be met to be selected as a candidate was to support the motherland and socialism," National Television and Radio Director Bounteng Vongsai said this week.

Last year, there were two nationwide ballots to prepare for the general elections—2,410 district assembly representatives were elected in June and 651 provincial officials in November.

Kaysone Comments at Polls

BK2703004589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
27 Mar 89 p 4

[Text] Laos' Prime Minister Kaysone Phomvihane spoke to reporters at a polling station at Wat Pakthong in Vientiane after casting his ballot in the country's first parliamentary election since 1975. Following are excerpts of the interview:

Q: What is the importance of this election for the people?

A: This election is an act to promote the people's democracy. The people have debated already who they will choose, what type of candidates they want. Who is good, and who is capable. The people have decided who will be their deputies.

Q: What will be the deputies' task?

A: The main duties of the assembly will be to form the constitution and some basic laws which are very important to govern the country and at the same time, they will improve, one step at a time, the laws of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Q: Is there a connection between this election and the establishment of a new government?

A: The establishment of a new government must be done after the formation of a new constitution.

Q: When will that happen?

A: In about one year or more. After that this draft of the constitution will be distributed to the people and it will be debated. The Lao people will be the masters of themselves, and the laws will be independent. We could easily copy the constitution of other countries, but it would not be the real Lao constitution, suitable to the real condition of Laos and Lao people's psychology. Observing the constitutions of other countries, we can observe what is good. But that does not mean we have to accept it.

Q: What about news of your retirement?

A: I will not retire. The people will not let me retire. Ask them. All of them want me to stay. Today I am the prime minister and tomorrow I will be the prime minister as long as they are no changes [as published].

The election marks a major turning point for Laos. But the general political line has been determined by several decisions already reached by the Central Committee (of the Lao Communist Party). There will be no change in the government.

Q: Which candidates have you selected?

A: I will not tell you. This is a secret ballot, so I cannot tell you. The people would blame me.

Q: Did you vote for Number 1 (his wife Thongvin)?

A: I cannot tell you. I just had to look at these: Who was most capable? Which candidates could become true representatives of the people?

Q: What is the next step in the opening up of Laos?

A: Laos has already been opened. You could say it was not opened up until 1980. Now it is. But there are many concrete things to be done.

Q: In the new constitution, will you allow more than one party?

A: I don't want to talk about that because that will be up to those who make the constitution. I do not want to interfere in that. My ideology is to make the people rich and the country strong. That is our wish.

Thongvin Reported Winner

BK2603132689 *Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao*
1200 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Excerpts] Today, some 1.8 million multiethnic Lao people turned out to vote to elect 79 people's representatives from the 121 candidates running in the nationwide election at the central level. The voting in various polling stations has been basically completed.

In the Vientiane municipal electoral zone, vote casting in many polling stations was completed before schedule and the vote counting has also been completed. Regarding this, Dr Siho Bannavong, vice chairman of the administrative committee and chairman of the electoral committee of Vientiane municipality, spoke to reporters as follow:

[Begin Siho Bannavong recording] A large crowd of people turned out to vote in all polling stations. The number of eligible voters casting ballots in this election is not less than the last time when 97 percent of eligible voters turned out to vote. This is considered to be a high percentage. As of now—it is now afternoon—vote casting has been completed and the electoral committee in each polling station is counting the votes. Various high-ranking party and state leaders have cast ballots in many different polling stations in Vientiane municipality. Our people have been pleased to see our leaders closely associate with them and join them in casting votes. In general, the voting at each station was completed at around 2 to 3 p.m. It is now almost 5 p.m.—the electoral committees in many stations have already completed counting the votes. So far, it appears that candidate No. 1—Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan—has received the highest votes; next are candidates Nos. 8 and 3. Regarding spoiled ballots, there are also invalid ballots. I have seen some 4 to 6 invalid ballots in each station. Most of the invalid ballots were caused by mistakes made by voters in crossing out the names of candidates; they crossed out too few names and thus left more names than the number of candidates that should be elected for this particular electoral zone. [end recording]

At the Vat Tainoi polling station in Sikhottabong District, 100 percent of eligible voters turned out to vote and the vote casting was completed at noon. [passage omitted on first portion of recorded interview with (Noudeng Manivong), chairman of the Vat Tainoi village administration and chief of the electoral committee of the polling station, on voting situation]

[Begin (Noudeng Manivong) recording] Following the vote counting, the result of the election for this polling station is as follow: winning first place is Mrs Thongvin Phomvihan, who had 1,004 votes; in second place is (Bounthan Vannasouk), with 997 votes; in third place is (Siphot Bounheuang), with 968 votes; in fourth place is (Colonel Siboun Khounthongbang), with 955 votes; in fifth place is (Colonel Douangchai), with 939 votes. [passage omitted on other names of candidates and the number of votes they received from this polling station and on result of election in (Ban Itmong) polling station] [end recording]

'Democratic Right' Exercised

BK2703021089 *Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao*
0000 GMT 27 Mar 89

[Excerpt] The election of the people's representatives at the central level was officially organized nationwide yesterday. There were 17 election zones with 4,153

polling stations and 79 out of 121 candidates—7 of them are females—will be elected by some 1.8 million eligible voters, approximately 47 percent of the total population.

The ballot casting started at 0700 on the basis of equality, direct and secret ballots and was carried out smoothly until 1700. The people who went to cast their ballots demonstrated their high sense of responsibility and joyfully exercised their democratic right to elect the candidates they feel qualified to sit in the state's highest organization to administer the country, promote and develop the popular democratic system in our country, organize the implementation of the party's lines, and carry out their duties of managing the affairs of the state and society. This election has truly expanded and promoted the people's democratic right because the people carefully discussed before the vote as to who they should elect as qualified and capable candidates. Similar discussions were also held at organizations and agencies to determine the candidates they felt most fit to serve as the people's representatives. The elected candidates will serve as representatives of the people of all strata, ages, and sexes in the Supreme People's Council and carry out their duties, first of all, of promulgating a constitution and major fundamental legislations which will be another step of improvement of the legal and political works of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The said constitution will be drafted within a year or so before it will be presented to general public scrutiny and improvement so that it can truly serve as Laos' constitution suitable to Laos' socioeconomic conditions, the Lao people's mentality, and the country's interests.

The first election zone, Vientiane Municipality, has 325 polling stations with over 302,000 eligible voters.

Our party and state leaders had the honor to cast the ballots at various polling stations. For example, General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane, chairman of the Council of Ministers, cast his ballot at polling station no. 5 at (Pak Thang) village of Sikhottabong District, President Souphanouvong at polling station No 2 at (Sithan Neua) village of Sikhottabong District, Acting President Phoumi Vongvichit at polling station No 8 at (Sisavat) village of Chanthabouli District, and Sisomphon Lovansai, acting chairman of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the National Electoral Committee, at polling station No 22 at (Hong Tha) village of Chanthabouli District.

Our national radio correspondents reported that many polling stations in Vientiane Municipality finished their vote counting early in the evening [26 March]. [passage omitted]

47 Percent Voter Turnout

BK2703093689 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Vientiane, March 27 (OANA-KPL)—The general election of people's deputies at central level was held yesterday from 0700 to 1700 hours.

121 Candidates ran for 79 seats. According to the registrar, 1.8 million eligible voters, covering 47 per cent of the population, casted their votes by secret ballots.

Counting votes are in full swing—the result of which will be announced soon.

The elected people's deputies are to study and adopt the constitution and other fundamental laws aiming at further strengthening the political and legal structures of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic].

The constitution suitable to the country's needs is to be drafted a year or so after the consultation and contribution from all walks of life.

Lao party and state leaders: Kaysone Phomvihane, Souphanouvong, Sisomphon Lovansai, and others were among those who casted their votes.

People Urged To Vote

BK2503093689 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 25 Mar 89

[PASASON editorial: "Voting Is the Right, Duty, and Responsibility of All Citizens"—date not given]

[Text] Respected listeners: Tomorrow, 26 March 1989, our multiethnic Lao people will cast their votes to elect representatives to the Supreme People's Council [SPC]. This is considered a very significant event in the political life of our Lao nation and of our multiethnic Lao people, because the election of representatives to the Central People's Council—which is the supreme state power body—is organized by the people and for the people. The election, therefore, reflects the implementation of rights to self-mastery and the responsibility of the citizens in building, consolidating, perfecting, promoting, and strengthening the popular democratic system in our country to make it serve as the basis for pursuing of the party's line and policies and for fulfillment of the duties on the state and social management.

In the elections of people's council representatives at the two levels—the district and provincial levels—in the recent past, more than 80 percent of eligible voters registered in all polling stations throughout the country exercised their rights by turning out to vote. This figure has shown the political awareness, the lofty spirit of responsibility, and the eagerness of our Lao citizens in contributing to further building, consolidating, and strengthening, ever more firmly, the administration. With the lessons learned from the past elections at the two levels and with the spirit of responsibility of each and every good citizen, it is expected that the voting in the election of the SPC representatives, which is scheduled to be held on 26 March, tomorrow, will take place amid a democratic atmosphere and in an orderly and effective manner. Besides, through the preparations, mobilization, and motivation by the election preparatory committees, the multiethnic people have now come

to maintain a higher level of understanding in the rules and regulations on the election. Our people in all localities have also launched many emulation campaigns in preparation for the election.

In coordination with the election campaigns, cadres have been sent to rural areas and grassroots to carry out the agricultural and forestry work by taking care of dry-season rice plants and building irrigation projects to combat droughts, thereby increasing confidence in the election and creating an enthusiastic and joyous atmosphere before the election day throughout the country. All 121 candidates running in the election have also turned out to their respective electoral zones to present themselves to the local people.

In short, as of now, preparations for the election have been effectively completed in all 17 electoral zones as well as in all grassroots of each zone. These well-organized preparations are considered favorable conditions for an effective election. Therefore, to fulfill the expectations and achieve success in the election in accordance with the objectives as put forth by our party and state, there are many tasks to be positively carried out. For example, the electoral committee of each polling station in each electoral zone, from the central down to the local levels, must uphold a spirit of responsibility over the duties assigned to it. It must give advice to eligible voters so as to help them correctly cast their votes in accordance with the rules and regulations to reduce, as many as possible, the number of invalid ballots that might be made due to misunderstanding in marking the ballots in the election.

At the same time, attention must be paid to encouraging those multiethnic people who are eligible to vote to be aware of their rights as citizens and then exercise those rights by turning out to vote to elect their representatives to the SPC at the right time and on the right day as scheduled. Eligible voters must be guided to fully exercise their democratic rights and elect outstanding candidates to serve as their representatives in the SPC. Should everyone do so, the people's democratic rights will be truly guaranteed and the people will elect appropriate candidates to act as their representatives in the supreme state power organization. All this is to make the administration, which comes from the people and for the people, serve as the genuine representative of the multiethnic laboring people and of people of various classes who are members of the entire Lao nation.

Tomorrow, all eligible voters are therefore requested to cast their votes to elect their representatives to the SPC. They must keep in mind that voting is the supreme right, duty, and responsibility of all Lao citizens in respect to the political life of the country. The voting to elect the SPC representatives tomorrow will, therefore, reflect the spirit of being good citizens of the nation.

Philippines

U.S. 'War' Equipment Rebuilt for Military Use

HK2503031389 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Text] Discarded American war machines are being rebuilt without fanfare at the Armed Forces Logistics Command in Camp Aguinaldo, thanks to Filipino ingenuity. Rebuilt so far were over 1,300 assorted vehicles, mostly MO151 Kennedy-type jeeps, J88-V30 trucks, mini-cruisers, M35 trucks and those deployed in combats: V-150 armoured vehicles, M77-105 mm Howitzers, Garand and carbine rifles.

Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] Logistics Command Chief Brigadier General Buenaventura Tabo said the Philippine Army got the lion's share of the Armed Forces rebuilt program. The AFP had to procure the necessary tools and equipment to rehabilitate unserviceable equipments which are considered scraps. Tabo also said that his unit repaired 15,000 firearms, mostly Garand and carbine, and shipped them to the military's support points for use by the newly formed Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Units, the military's first line of defense against insurgents.

Ex-Marcos Aides Issued Warrants, Cancel Trip

HK2503025989 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Text] Five more former Cabinet ministers of deposed President Marcos appeared to have cancelled a planned visit to Honolulu after United States officials issued warrants for them to testify in Marcos' racketeering trial. The no-show came a day after agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI] arrested former Central Bank governor and Education Minister Jaime Laya on a material witness warrant in connection with the Marcos indictment.

FBI agent in charge in Honolulu Ralph Guirardi named the five expected Marcos aides as: former Prime Minister Cesar Virata, former Budget Minister Manuel Alba, former Health Minister Jesus Azurin, former Energy Minister Geronimo Velasco, and former Director General Placido Mapa of the National Economic and Development Authority.

Four of Laya's companions, former Labor Minister Blas Ople, Justice Minister Estelito Mendoza, Agrarian Reform Minister Conrado Estrella, and Social Welfare and Development Minister Sylvia Montes, were also issued subpoenas. With Laya, all of them were expected to appear May 8 in U.S. District Court in New York City.

Aquino Said 'Surprised'

HK2503090189 Hong Kong AFP in English 0845 GMT
25 Mar 89

[Text] Manila, March 25—Philippines President Corazon Aquino expressed surprise Saturday at the arrest in the United States of former Education Minister Jaime Laya on a warrant to testify at the racketeering trial of Ferdinand Marcos.

Mr. Laya, who served as education minister from 1984 until Mr. Marcos's fall from the presidency in February 1986, was arrested Wednesday in Honolulu on a material witness warrant as he arrived from Manila with four other former Cabinet ministers.

They were scheduled to visit the former president, who is hospitalized with heart and lung problems.

"I was surprised myself. It was not anticipated," Mrs. Aquino told reporters when asked to comment on Mr. Laya's arrest. "I wasn't aware of any such move on the part of the U.S."

Mr. Laya, who was ordered to appear in the U.S. District Court in New York on May 8, surrendered his passport and paid a 10,000 U.S. dollar cash deposit against 100,000 dollars' bail.

Mr. Marcos has been indicted along with his wife, Imelda, on charges of looting 100 million dollars from the Philippine treasury and defrauding U.S. banks to buy real estate and art works. He has yet to be arraigned, but Mrs. Marcos has pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Laya served as director of Mr. Marcos' budget office in the mid-1970's and as governor of the central bank until 1984, when he was forced to resign because the country's federal reserves were overstated by 600 million dollars.

Two Suspects Detained in Congressman's Killing
HK2503055189 Hong Kong AFP in English 0540 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] Manila, March 25 (AFP)—Security forces detained two people who allegedly participated in the killing of a Philippines congressman in the central Philippines last week, a newspaper said here Saturday.

Representative Moises Espinosa was killed on March 17 by an assassin who opened fire with an AK-47 assault rifle at the airport of the central island of Masbate minutes after Mr. Espinosa arrived on a flight from Manila.

Military spokesmen could not be immediately contacted for comment.

The two suspects were arrested Friday inside the office of Lieutenant Colonel Jaime Liwanag, the former provincial commander of Masbate who was later transferred to nearby Sorsogon on Mr. Espinosa's request, the Daily Inquirer said.

Masbate provincial administrator Johnny Sanchez said the suspects were arrested in Sorsogon, the newspaper said. He identified one as constabulary Sergeant Enteng Cervantes, a bodyguard of Lt. Col. Liwanag.

"I think Liwanag is involved in the case. You cannot avoid linking him to the murder because of previous events," Mr. Sanchez was quoted as saying.

Officials Expect More Village Election Violence
HK2503023789 Hong Kong AFP in English 0227 GMT 25 Mar 89

[by Mynardo Macaraig]

[Text] Manila, March 25 (AFP)—Election officials are bracing for more violence ahead of village elections nationwide on Tuesday, with at least five people killed in violence related to the polls in the past week.

President Corazon Aquino said this year's polls for some 280,000 village and district positions in more than 40,000 "barangays" would complete her restoration of democracy, following the drafting of a new Constitution and national elections in 1986 and local elections of 1987.

Voters Tuesday will select the eight members of their village council. Political parties are banned from taking part, and the candidate with the most votes automatically becomes the barangay captain.

But intense political rivalry has resulted in bloodshed and blighted Philippine elections for decades. And although next week's polls were ostensibly non-partisan contests, they have not proved to be the exception.

At least five people have been killed since the campaign began on March 18, including three candidates in Manila. On the eve of the campaign, ruling party Congressman Moises Espinosa was assassinated in his bailiwick in the central island of Masbate, a hotbed of election violence.

Although the positions at stake hold very little power, winners will have access to a portion of local real estate taxes and they will be in direct touch with the electorate.

In the past, local politicians have campaigned heavily for allies in the barangays whose wards could then serve as a ready-made political machine which could propel their patrons to more influential positions.

In contrast to past polls, when the main danger came from hired guns of rival political clans, the threat this time comes mainly from the communist insurgent New People's Army (NPA).

Hilario Davide, chairman of the government poll watchdog body Commission on Elections (Comelec), said his agency has identified 3,555 villages as "possible hot spots" where violence may erupt due to guerrilla presence or intense political rivalry.

Comelec district affairs department manager Julio de Samito said 18 per cent of the country's villages were infiltrated, influenced or otherwise threatened by the NPA.

Mr. De Samito told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that in the northern province of Ifugao many candidates had already withdrawn due to NPA threats, while he had received numerous requests for the postponement of the elections.

In the village of Nalunao, southeast of Manila, residents will have no candidate to choose from as no one has registered, Quezon Province Comelec Supervisor Manuel Conti said in Lucena City.

Four other villages in Quezon have only one candidate each, he said, adding that all five villages were influenced by NPA guerrillas.

Other local governments have requested the Comelec to transfer polling places from isolated villages to more secured towns or cluster them in one area where the military can better protect voters, ballots and poll officials.

The NPA had previously threatened anti-communist figures against running and the military says the NPA plans to use intimidation to put its own candidates in power to set the stage for a "shadow government."

The district polls were already postponed twice, ostensibly due to the NPA threat, from the original date of May 1988 to November of that year, then to this month.

At present, only one district has been allowed by Comelec to postpone balloting from Tuesday due to the security situation. But Mr. De Samito believes more districts will have elections postponed.

The military, police, militiamen and even high school cadets have been deputized to guard the polls, a move which has been criticized as allegedly allowing right-wing forces to manipulate the vote.

Rebel Plans for Polls Disclosed

HK2703021589 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 26 Mar 89

[Text] The constabulary today disclosed communist plans to capture the leadership of at least 60 percent of the barangays under their influence in tomorrow's elections. Colonel Gerardo Flores, constabulary intelligence chief, said that based on a declassified intelligence report the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and its military arm, the New People's Army [NPA], would try to capture many posts and try to ensure the victory of at least four of their candidates in areas where they are weak. He said the report indicated that the CPP-NPA have adopted plans to gain leadership in the country's 42,000 barangays. He said that at present, the CPP-NPA has assigned special groups to determine which candidates will be supported by the party. Flores told reporters the communists are banking on the winning candidates whom they can use in expanding their party's objectives. He added that under the guidelines imposed by the CPP-NPA's top hierarchy, their district and section

committees in every town will be responsible for the campaign of their favored candidates, while the NPA guerrillas' front committees are tasked with the employment of terrorist tactics.

Meanwhile Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has ordered the military to give no quarter to communist rebels harassing or coercing voters to vote for leftist candidates during the election. Ramos issued the order during a top-level conference with military officials in southern Tagalog, following reports that armed NPA guerrillas have been conducting house-to-house campaigns in Quezon Province, particularly in the Bondoc Peninsula.

Communist Rebels Claim 30,000 Guerrillas

HK2703070589 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 27 Mar 89 pp 1, 10

[By Nimfa U. Rueda, with reports from Rita Villadiego]

[Text] Rebel leader Romulo Kintanar yesterday claimed the communist New People's Army [NPA] now has a strength of 30,000 guerillas—7,000 more than the military's estimate.

Kintanar, using the title NPA chief of staff for the first time, made the claim in a statement released three days before the NPA's 20th founding anniversary.

The rebel leader was arrested with four other top ranking communist leaders a year ago, but he and his wife, Gloria Asuncion Jopson, escaped last November. Last Saturday, the military raised to P [pesos] 450,000 the reward for his recapture.

The three-page NPA statement, which was sent to news organizations, was unsigned, but it is believed to be authentic.

Kintanar said that 10,000 of the NPA guerillas have high-powered rifles while the other 20,000 have inferior weapons.

He said the NPA now operates in 60 guerilla fronts in all but eight of the country's 73 provinces, 800 out of 1,500 cities and municipalities and in 12,000 barangays.

Kintanar said the NPA has managed to survive despite a stepped-up military campaign intended to crush the backbone of insurgency by 1991.

Kintanar's report confirmed for the first time military intelligence reports that he has reassumed his former post in the armed group.

"The people's army has, on the whole, frustrated the reactionary AFP campaigns and offensives," he said.

Kintanar added that the government's prediction that it will crush insurgency in three years "is nothing but an empty boast typical of the die-hard reactionaries' bluster."

Kintanar said that from October 1988 to January this year, the NPA in the Visayas launched 69 offensives such as raids, ambushes, sabotage, arms confiscations, employment of land mines, establishment of checkpoints and partisan operations.

In these operations, Kintanar said, the rebels confiscated three mortars, two machine guns, 70 highpowered rifles, 20 handguns and communication equipment.

To achieve this objective, the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA has adopted a plan which starts with a thorough study of the issues in the campaign, the identification of areas that can be influenced and candidates the rebels will support.

The chosen candidates are then asked to forge an "agreement" with the CPP-NPA. This pact calls for the rebels' district and section committees to handle the campaign in the barangay, while the guerilla front committee implements the tactics.

On election day, the CPP-NPA will monitor the conduct of the polls, while a support group will be ready to act against incidence of fraud and harassment against its supported candidates.

Flores said the winning candidates will be reminded of their agreement with the CPP-NPA, while losers will be used as contacts in the barangay.

Up to yesterday, the military was still considering the possibility of recommending the postponement of elections in some areas.

It had earlier classified 3,555 barangays as "very critical," 5,612 as "critical" and 8,424 as "sensitive."

Rimando said the classification was based on the extent of rebel influence and past incidence of violence during elections.

At least five persons have already been killed since the start of the campaign period of March 18.

In the latest incident nine persons were seriously wounded in a shootout that broke up a miting de avance [Grand Rally] in Barangay 10, Lucena City last Saturday night.

Police identified the wounded as Pfc. Belen Gando, Rodel Tadosa, Mario Pagsuyin, Maria Teresa Cuarez, Maria Cabadu, Araceli Horray, and Adelia Perigrin.

Some 1,000 residents of Barangay 10 were listening to the campaign speeches of candidates at around 9:00 p.m. Saturday when Alandy told Hotalia to avoid heckling some candidates he did not like. Apparently resenting the advice, Hotalia shot. Alandy with a .45-caliber pistol, hitting him on the thigh.

Several policemen who rushed to the scene engaged Hotalia in a shootout which ended when Hotalia fell wounded. But seven civilians caught in the crossfire also suffered gunshot wounds.

All the wounded were rushed to Quezon Memorial Hospital for treatment.

Witnesses said Alandy, who is detailed as bodyguard to Gov Eduardo Rodriguez, was earlier campaigning for one candidate.

But he became unruly during the campaign rally prompting Hotalia to ask him to behave.

Thailand

U.S. Responds to Aide Memoire on Relations
BK2603044489 Bangkok THE NATION in English
26 Mar 89 pp 6-7

[By Somphong Kittinaradon]

[Text] The White House last week replied to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's aide memoire calling for a review of bilateral relationship. At the conclusion of the written response, the US said it welcomes the premier's initiative represented in the memoire and looks forward to further bilateral discussions on the important issues between them.

At face value, the response indicated a US approval, in principle, of the premier's suggestions. But on closer scrutiny, the approval was largely restricted to the objective of strengthening bilateral relations. In fact, the latest US move implies the US aim of showing to Thailand that it highly values the bilateral relationship and intends to improve it.

That conclusion can be read from the fact that the response has been worded in such a way as to avoid any hint of discord. That helps explain why the US failed to respond to most of the specific suggestions made by Chatchai's aide memoire. There are two schools of thought in assessing the situation up to this point. One has it that the US will not accept the Thai proposals which the response did not address, while another group of analysts contends that it is impossible for the US to accept all the Thai suggestions at once and in such a short time.

And yet, both schools of thought admit, directly or indirectly, that the absence from the response was where disagreements remain between the two governments. By logical extension, the US deliberately avoided addressing these areas of differences because it cares about the bilateral relationship.

It is also possible that the US did not want to hurt Premier Chatchai's feelings, given that the proposals were the brainchild of the PM's [Prime Minister's]

personal advisers and enjoyed the premier's full blessing. Armed with such a positive response, the premier can publicly claim a positive outcome to his Tokyo meeting with President Bush last month, during which he presented the aide memoire.

Yet, the US administration was also careful enough not to tip the balance against Sitthi's Foreign Ministry. In an apparent allusion to the premier's proposal for a direct link between Government House and the White House, the US stated its preference for the use of the existing mechanisms. The US spelt it out by citing as examples communications between the respective embassies and the related agencies in the host countries and consultations through inter-agency delegations appointed by both governments. It did not say, however, that it rejected the other means of "direct communications".

A direct access between Government House and the White House can be construed to mean that in practice, the respective embassies could be by-passed and, in Thailand's case, the Foreign Ministry could also be edged out of the communications link.

The observation made by the US can also be taken as an indication of the administration's acknowledgement of the sensitivities of its overseas embassies which report to the State Department. In other words, it is a matter of principle for the US to state its view.

In broader terms, the US said it is "always ready" for a broad dialogue and that it agreed to consultations at "all levels" and contacts between the private sectors and the academics in addition to the government-to-government interaction.

While the statement has been worded to help save the premier from the criticism that the US has rejected his proposal, the all-level contact was obviously written in the context of its preference for the use of existing mechanisms, particularly as far as specific trade issues are concerned.

In fact, the proposal for a direct link was more about modality than substance. Like it, another modality proposed was the package of negotiations on trade and trade-related disputes. In this connection, the premier proposed that the issues which could not be resolved could be relayed to relevant subcommittees so that from the overall picture, progress can be seen from the package efforts.

The US apparently agreed to the rationale behind the proposed modality: Controversial issues should be kept in their "proper perspective within the context of overall bilateral relations, as well as in relation to their intrinsic importance to the totality of our trade."

But the US message failed to commit it to the "package of negotiations" formula.

It only mentioned, "the challenge is to prevent their inevitable adjustments inherent in any dynamic, evolving relationship such as US-Thai bilateral trade from limiting the potentialities of that trade, which strengthens overall relations in direct proportion to its expansion."

The US also failed to respond directly to two relevant specific proposals, of which the first calls for "substantive talks" between the two countries to identify the new areas of bilateral trade and US investment in Thailand. The more dramatic proposal is the premier's suggestion for Thai-US cooperation to make a joint economic inroad into Indochinese countries now that, according to the aide memoire, Kampuchean peace is at hand.

On the surface, the US message did not respond to the two relevant proposals. And yet, the response said, tactfully in the context of cooperative areas of the two countries, "In Indochina, too, we may be on the verge of important success, thanks significantly to the steadfast ASEAN policy approach, which we have supported. It has taken a decade, but ASEAN firmness and the backing of its friends seem finally to have convinced Vietnam that it must withdraw its forces from Cambodia (Kampuchea) and cooperate in a negotiated political settlement. We cannot yet relax our efforts, but there is reason for hope."

The response highlighted the Bush administration's stand in favour of the strategic international pressure on Vietnam until the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea.

By logical extension, the US was making two implicit points:

—Without the past decade-long relentless effort by ASEAN and its allies against the Vietnamese military presence in Kampuchea, the prospect of a Kampuchean peace will not have been as bright as it is today.

The premier had earlier gone on record, saying that the past policy failed to work and that's why he had to take a new initiative of holding direct talks with Hun Sen, prime minister of the pro-Hanoi People's Republic of Kampuchea [PRK], which ASEAN and its allies have refused to recognize.

—The priority now should be placed with the continuation of the economic and political pressure on Vietnam as against economic cooperation with the Indochinese countries.

While Chatchai's policy remark of turning Indochinese battlefields into a marketplace could be taken by some critics as an indication of a shift of priority, the premier has lately sought to quash the speculation by making it clear that the step will only follow the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops. In addition following his

return from Beijing, the premier apparently toughened his stand towards Vietnam and PRK, in line with the international pressure strategy.

In this light, Bush's message was timely in reinforcing the Washington-Beijing view of maintaining the pressure on Vietnam as a matter of priority during the crucial months.

From a broader perspective, the US response reflects the US's concern about its presence in Thailand in the longer term, particularly in the aftermath of the Kampuchean settlement.

Without the regional problem which has helped forge an alliance between ASEAN, Washington and China against the expansion of the Soviet presence in the region, Bangkok is likely to become more open-minded towards the Soviet Union's approaches. The Thai-US relationship is also expected to increase steadily for their geographic proximity. [sentence as published]

In other words, the US will be on the defensive compared to the Chinese and the Soviet activities in and relations with Thailand in the post-settlement superpower rivalry which will take a more subtle and sophisticated form against the backdrop of accommodation between the superpowers.

Further on Memoire Response

*BK2403021489 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
24 Mar 89 p 1*

[Text] The overall tone of the US response to Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's aide memoire last month was positive, according to sources who have seen the document.

According to sources, Washington reaffirmed its support of Thai policy on security, narcotics and Indochinese refugees.

The US was optimistic that a negotiated political settlement in Kampuchea may soon materialise.

It said ASEAN's steadfast policy and the backing of its friends finally seem to have convinced Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea.

But while maintaining that there is reason for hope, the document also cautioned that efforts to pressure Vietnam cannot be relaxed.

On trade matters, Washington expressed broad agreement, with the Chatchai aide memoire, saying it is essential to view controversial issues within the context of overall bilateral relations as well as in relation to their importance to the total trade picture.

However, the US made no direct comment on two specific trade proposals made by Gen Chatchai, namely, a package approach to bilateral trade talks and emphasis on substantial trade and investment.

The document also did not respond to Gen Chatchai's suggestion to establish direct links between Government House and the White House. But it did refer to the use of both governments' agencies to air all views on any aid issue and to take these views into account.

It conceded that this system can be cumbersome and time-consuming but maintained that it provides reasonable assurances that decisions that benefit relatively narrow interests will not be made at the cost of overall relations.

There was no mention of another Thai proposal for common Thai-US endeavours in expanding economic relationships with Indochinese countries and Burma (when political and diplomatic circumstances permit).

But Washington voiced its readiness for a broad dialogue on trade and trade-related issues including proposals for new bilateral initiatives. It said such a dialogue can and should be conducted at a number of levels and need not be limited to a government-to-government basis.

It mentioned the important roles that should be taken by the countries' businessmen and academics.

The document concluded that the US welcomed the initiatives represented by Gen Chatchai's aide memoire and looks forward to further talks between the two governments on important issues.

A Government House source cautioned that the absence of any direct US response to Thailand's proposals does not mean they have been rejected.

'Interim Measure' on U.S. Drug Patents Viewed *BK2503030189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Mar 89 p 3*

[Text] The United States Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association has a better understanding of Thailand's ability to give their drugs an 18-month interim period of protection, Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan said yesterday.

Mr Subin said that while some progress had been made on the issue, the association had yet to tell the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] if it was prepared to accept the interim measure.

The minister was speaking after an informal meeting of the Thai-US relations sub-committee, which has to report its findings to an April 5 meeting of the International Economic Policy Relations Committee, headed by Deputy Prime Minister Phong Sarasin.

Mr Subin said FDA deputy secretary-general Phakdi Phosiri told association representatives the measure, which involves a bio-equivalency test, would protect Thai consumers and new US drugs.

Initially, the US felt Thailand could afford longer protection, said Mr Subin, but the FDA explained it was limited by law and the offer was the best it could make.

During yesterday's meeting, public and private sector representatives explained the action that had been taken in the areas of copyrights, computer software and trademarks.

Mr Subin said very minor problems remained in these areas although pharmaceutical patents continued to be highlighted.

The private sector representatives urged that the Government try to avoid making Thailand a target of punitive action under the Trade Act's Section 301.

While Section 301 retaliation would not have an immediate impact, the private sector felt Thailand's presence on the list would bring about a damaging uncertainty.

Thailand wanted to avoid a Section 301 listing, said Mr Subin, and each government agency would return to work out their positions before presenting reports to Mr Phong's committee.

Although reports from Washington indicate Thailand could rank high on the list, there was still time to negotiate, he said.

U.S. Congressman Arrives, Meets With Sitthi
*BK2703143689 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
1300 GMT 27 Mar 89*

[Text] Stephen Solarz, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, in his capacity as chairman of the Subcommittee for Asia and Pacific Affairs, called on Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila at the Foreign Ministry this morning. Chet Sucharitkun, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, reported that both sides exchanged views on the Cambodian issue in detail as well as proposals of the various sides. Solarz' trip is aimed at listening to opinions of all sides concerned. Before coming to Thailand, Solarz visited China and met with Prince Sihanouk.

Sitthi-Rogachev Talks Issues Previewed
*BK2303010189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
23 Mar 89 p 5*

[Text] The Kampuchean problem will dominate the talks between Soviet Vice Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev and Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila during his visit here this weekend to attend the 45th ESCAP [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific] session.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi reportedly told a small group of participants at a seminar held by the International Studies Centre (ISC) at the Regent of Bangkok Hotel yesterday that the visit of Rogachev, who took part in the recent Sino-Soviet normalisation talks in Beijing, indicated the importance Moscow has given to Thailand.

The minister was also reported to have told the group that Thailand's foreign policy is flexible and adaptable to changes in international politics, particularly those concerning the superpowers.

Regarding relations with the superpowers, a source close to the seminar said ACM Sitthi explained that Thailand has four options to follow: adopt special relations with the superpowers; maintain equi-distance from the superpowers; adopt a middle path or adopt close relations with any of the superpowers with national interests being taken into consideration.

During the same seminar, National Security Council Secretary-General Suwit Sutthanukun reportedly suggested that Thai foreign policy should embody the following elements: evaluation of past experience, ability to make forecasts, adaptability and practicality.

ISC chairman Dr Thanat Khoman, meanwhile, reportedly said that as a small country, Thailand should accept the reality that a conflict with the superpowers is not unavoidable and Thailand is not in a position to get involved in a confrontational situation. It is necessary that Thailand adopt a firm stance and enhance its domestic stability, he was reported to have said.

The former foreign minister reportedly likened Thai foreign policy to that of a bamboo bending with the wind. Such policy shows a high degree of flexibility, he reportedly said.

Apart from Rogachev, the meeting was also told that Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov will also visit Thailand, but his date of arrival is yet to be set.

Meanwhile, US Ambassador Daniel O'Donohue will call on ACM Sitthi today to be briefed on Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's visit to China last week.

A ministerial source said the US envoy is particularly interested in Gen Chatchai's meeting with paramount Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, during which the Chinese statesman gave a long "lecture" to the Premier.

Deng reportedly told Gen Chatchai that Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen, who visited Bangkok recently, was just a puppet of Vietnam and was not free to make decisions by himself.

Deng, according to the source, also implied that Vietnam could not be trusted by saying that China used to give it huge amounts of aid during the Vietnam War, but that Hanoi had turned against China after winning the war in 1975.

After the meeting with Deng, Gen Chatchai told the Press in Beijing that Thailand would cease all direct approaches to Vietnam and Phnom Penh and would wait for the outcome of the Sino-Soviet talks.

The source said that Vietnamese Ambassador to Thailand, Le Mai, also called on M.L. Thep Thewakun, director-general of the Political Department, for a briefing on Chatchai's China visit.

The envoy, the source said, was also interested in the discussion between Chatchai and Deng, especially regarding Vietnam and Kampuchea.

Rogachev Arrives 25 March
*BK2603032589 Bangkok Domestic Service
in English 0000 GMT 26 Mar 89*

[Text] Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev will meet Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila tomorrow for talks on the Kampuchean problem and Thai-Soviet relations. Mr Rogachev arrived in Bangkok yesterday evening [25 March] to attend the general meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP], where he will explain Moscow's policy toward this region.

During his meeting with ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi, Mr Rogachev is expected to brief the Thai minister on the visit to Thailand of Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov, tentatively scheduled in May.

The Soviet minister will give a speech at the ESCAP meeting on Tuesday afternoon [28 March] and leave Bangkok on Wednesday after meeting Commerce Minister Subin Pinkhayan.

Sitthi Meets Rogachev
*BK2703092989 Bangkok THE NATION in English
27 Mar 89 Afternoon Edition p 3*

[Text] Thailand and the Soviet Union agreed this morning that warring Kampuchean factions must iron out their differences regarding the peace settlement process if permanent peace is to be achieved in the Indochinese state, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said this morning.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi told reporters after meeting with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev that the talks focussed primarily on attempts to solve the Kampuchean conflict.

The foreign minister added that Rogachev and himself also discussed preparations for the Sino-Soviet summit in May, of which Rogachev is in charge.

Rogachev said his discussion with Sitthi was "friendly and frank" on the Kampuchean problem, the upcoming visit of Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov and other bilateral issues.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister said agreement on the peace settlement process is a prerequisite for peace in the war-torn state.

"The exchange of views today is very useful and both countries are eager to make the peace process a success," he said. "We shall do our best. By we, I mean, Thailand, the Soviet Union and other countries concerned."

Rogachev, who arrived for a four-day visit Saturday night, was also scheduled to hold talks with Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kasemsamoson Kasemsi this afternoon. Both will lay groundworks for Ryzhkov's visit, which is expected sometime in the latter half of May.

Ryzhkov was scheduled to visit Thailand in January but the trip was postponed following the devastating earthquake in Armenia late last year.

Rogachev will also address the annual meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Sitthi Discusses New Measures for 'Boat People'
*BK1503011189 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Mar 89 p 6*

[Text] Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday that ASEAN had stopped granting automatic refugee status to people fleeing Vietnam because the countries in the region could no longer absorb the influx of Vietnamese boat people.

He said that ASEAN had found it difficult to determine whether boat people were genuine refugees seeking political asylum or merely economic migrants.

Most of the arriving boat people, he said, are economic migrants who want to live in third countries.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi said although the situation in Vietnam had improved the number of refugees has not decreased.

It depended on how Vietnam would settle its internal problems, he said.

ACM Sitthi, however, said that Vietnam has cooperated in the refugee problem, especially by taking back those who had volunteered to return.

Deputy Interior permanent secretary Somphon Klinphongsa said yesterday that boat people arriving as of midnight on Monday would be immediately sent to Site 2 camp in Prachin Buri for repatriation.

Asked about the how the United States views ASEAN's cut-off of automatic refugee status, ACM Sitthi said the US was waiting on the outcome of the International Conference on Indochinese Refugees in Geneva in June.

All illegal immigrants would also be sent back if the ASEAN-proposed cutoff date is endorsed by the conference.

If the proposal is rejected, Thailand would start processing the migrants and only those who had left their homeland for political reasons would be entitled to resettlement in third countries.

Villagers Go Home as Cambodia Fighting Eases
*BK1503011589 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
15 Mar 89 p 6*

[Text] Ta Phraya—Thai civilians yesterday returned to their border villages opposite Ampil Camp in Kampuchea which Vietnamese forces had recaptured from Khmer resistance fighters on Sunday, sources said.

The Thais returned under the protection of Public Welfare Department and United Nations Border Relief Operation officials to their villages of Ban Sa-ngae, Ban Chiang Dam, Ban Khok Thahan and Ban Khok Thaduang, the sources said.

The villagers had been evacuated to Ban Khok Phrik and Ban Kasang deeper inside Thailand during the height of Vietnamese counterattack on Ampil.

Two Thai villagers were wounded and two houses were damaged during the fighting for Ampil between Son Sann's KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] guerrillas and some 1,200-strong Vietnamese forces led by Soviet-made T-54 tanks and supported by artillery fire.

The KPNLF could defend Ampil for only six days from March 6 before retreating to Ban Sanlar Chngan, opposite the Site 2 refugee camp north of here, the sources said.

Cambodia Expected To Free 300 Fishermen, Miners
*BK1503013989 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Mar 89 p 3*

[Text] Kampuchean authorities are today expected to free about 300 Thai fishermen and gemstone miners imprisoned in Kampuchea for illegal entry, an informed source said.

The source said a group of Thai MPs [members of parliament] were to travel to Kompong Som, a port town of Kampuchea, today and accompany the ex-prisoners home. The freed Thais will be transported by boats to the eastern province of Trat via the Kampuchean coastal province of Koh Kong.

Thousands of Thai fishermen reportedly encroach Kampuchean waters in the wake of depleting marine resources in the Thai eastern coast. A large number of miners have also sneaked into the country to seek employment in the gem industry.

The release which was initially scheduled for March 10 was delayed due to the lack of coordination between the PM's [Prime Minister's] Office and the Interior Ministry, the source said.

Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has appointed MPs led by Thanit Traiwut (Prachachon-Trad) to receive the fishermen and miners while the Interior Ministry has also assigned Trad provincial officials to assist in preparations for the homecoming.

The confusion prompted the PRK [People's Republic of Kampuchea] government to postpone the release.

The Khmer regime decided to release the fishermen and miners tomorrow after the MPs and Trad provincial officials agreed that the MPs will personally receive the prisoners.

Deputy Army Chief Views Communist Party
*BK1503095589 Bangkok THE NATION in English
15 Mar 89 Afternoon Edition p 3*

[Text] Deputy Army Commander in Chief General Wanchai Ruangtrakun said this morning the outlawed Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) may have to dissolve itself very soon.

Speaking in his capacity as assistant general director of communist suppression, Wanchai told reporters that the CPT is now running out of qualified leaders to guide the movement after many former leaders had been arrested or died.

In the past, the banned party was led by 35 central committee members but at present, only nine of them are active, he said.

"They are also on the run to escape the authorities' dragnet," he said.

Wanchai said the death toll of officials killed in fighting with the communist insurgents dropped from 774 during the heydays of the party in 1978 to 17 last year and only seven this year.

He estimated that the membership of the banned party has reduced to only about 400-500 throughout the country.

"This statistic shows the success of our strategy and campaign against communism," he said.

Wanchai added that if the authorities maintain the military pressure on the insurgents while promoting the democratic rule and the economic development of the

country in accordance with Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's policy instruction, the chance of the outlawed party restoring its strength would be very remote.

Vietnam

Meeting Held With U.S. Specialists on MIA's
BK2403151889 Hanoi VNA in English 1510 GMT
24 Mar 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 24—Vietnamese and U.S. specialists engaged in the search for Americans missing in action in the Vietnam war met here on March 23 and 24.

They reviewed the results of their joint activities in the recent past and discussed a programme of actions for the coming period.

The U.S. side expressed thanks to the Vietnamese Government and people for their goodwill and humanitarianism in resolving the issue of Americans missing in action in the war.

Air Service Established With Canada
BK2703092889 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27—Vietnam airlines and the Can-Vietnam International Charter Airlines Inc. on March 25 signed a contract to open a direct air link between Ho Chi Minh City and Vancouver in Canada.

There will be one flight a week, and the first is scheduled for early this June.

More than 250,000 Vietnamese are living in Canada.

Fishing Group Sent to Truong Sa Archipelago
BK2703085589 Hanoi VNA in English 0708 GMT
27 Mar 89

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 27—A group of 15 trawlers crewed by 153 fishermen from the coastal central province of Phu Khanh has been sent to its offshore district of Truong Sa in the Truong Sa [Spratly] archipelago for long-term exploitation of sea products there.

The marine product joint enterprise of Nha Trang provincial capital has invested 70 million dong worth of chandleries. It also sent a ship to the fishing ground to process the products for export.

1988 SRV-USSR Labor Emulation Movement
BK2503042589 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 24 Mar 89

[Text] The Vietnam Construction Trade Union, the Soviet Trade Representative Agency in Vietnam, and the Regional Trade Union Executive Committee of various Soviet organs in Vietnam met in Hanoi this morning to review the 1988 Vietnamese-Soviet international socialist emulation movement.

Emulation pledges were reportedly signed in carrying out almost all the construction projects last year. Nearly 100 projects and products have been named after various political events in the country, with 70 of them being completed on schedule or ahead of schedule.

It is especially noted that last year Generator Group No 1 at the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power plant and Generator Group No 2 at the Tri An hydroelectric power plant were put into the national power grid, and the Bim Son cement factory succeeded in producing 735,000 metric tons of cement for the first time since entering into operation 8 years ago.

In order to carry out the 1989 tasks successfully and effectively and to further develop Vietnamese-Soviet friendship, the Vietnam Construction Trade Union and the Regional Trade Union Executive Committee of various Soviet organs in Vietnam, and the Soviet Trade Agency in Vietnam decided that in 1989 the international socialist emulation movement would continue to be maintained. Its main objectives are to complete construction and put Generator Group No 2 of the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power plant into operation by the end of 1989; start operating Generator Groups Nos 3 and 4 at the Tri An hydroelectric power plant; complete the construction work and decorating at the Ho Chi Minh museum; put the 750,000-tonne Bim Son cement factory into operation; complete building the production chain of the main Dap Cau paper mill; and fulfill the targets for the delivery of all the remaining projects as planned and in accordance with those emulation pledges already signed.

Army Paper Praises Soviet Peace Moves
BK2503092089 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 24 Mar 89

[QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 24 March commentary: "Positive Contribution to Promoting the Process of Detente"]

[Text] On 21 March, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet issued a decree on reducing the Soviet Armed Forces and defense spending for 1989-90. According to this decree, within 2 years, the Soviet Army and Navy will be reduced by half a million men, and conventional weapons and defense spending will be cut back considerably. This Supreme Soviet decree institutionalizes by

legal means the important decisions made recently by the Soviet party and state on reducing the Armed Forces and defense spending in the years immediately ahead.

On 7 December 1988 at the UN General Assembly, Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, declared that in the next 2 years, the Soviet Union will unilaterally make a sizable cut in its troop strength and weaponry in Soviet territory and withdraw part of its Armed Forces from the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Mongolia. In 1989, the Soviet Armed Forces stationed in the Warsaw Pact member countries will be reduced by more than 20,000 men, 2,700 tanks, and 300 fighter aircraft; and some 24 tactical missile launching pads will be removed from the GDR.

Along with the Soviet Union, other fraternal socialist countries are also determined to accelerate the process of disarmament and ameliorate the international political atmosphere. At present, the reduction of the Armed Forces and conventional weapons is also being carried out in the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Mongolia. By 1991, the Warsaw bloc's Armed Forces will be reduced by 300,000 men, 12,000 tanks, and 930 fighter aircraft. Recently, the party and government of Mongolia has also decided to cut back the Mongolian Armed Forces by 13,000 men as well as 1,000 military trucks and 90 tanks and armored car in 1989-90.

The unilateral disarmament undertaken by the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries has promoted the building of confidence in relations among countries and groups of countries having different political systems; and it serves as a prerequisite for creating a new change in international relations along the direction of detente. These actions testify to the goodwill of peace and resolve of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in repelling and eliminating the danger of war and realizing mankind's wish to build a peaceful, stable, friendly, and cooperative world.

Large segments of public opinion are now optimistically observing the considerable progress in disarmament. For three years now, amidst the atmosphere of the new political thinking, this process has gradually become a reality contributing to easing the tense situation in the world.

Following the signing and implementation of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, the current negotiations on reducing half of the strategic offensive weapons, banning chemical weapons, and ending nuclear tests has also achieved some progress. The Vienna meeting of foreign ministers from 33 European countries, the United States and Canada in early March to discuss the reduction of conventional armed forces in Europe and the measures to consolidate trust and security is also a new step of progress on the thorny path of disarmament.

At this meeting, the Soviet Union advanced a three-stage plan for reducing the Armed Forces of the Warsaw and NATO blocs to the level of only defensive forces. NATO member countries also recently proposed the building of stability on the basis of reducing armaments. At the same time, at this meeting, the FRG and Poland put forth a common proposal for holding various meetings of experts from NATO and Warsaw member countries, neutral and nonaligned countries in the first half of the year to discuss doctrine and other issues in the military strategy. This is another new positive manifestation of the dialogue and detente posture.

Despite encouraging progress on the path of disarmament, threats to world peace are not eliminated. In the United States and some Western countries, there are still forces that oppose disarmament, want to intensify the arms race, and prepare for war. These forces are mainly the chieftains of large military corporations whose purses depend on the preparation for and maintenance of war. They are also administration officials who maintain close relations with these chieftains and represent their interests. They still want the West to enjoy military superiority. They call on NATO to be alert against and suspicious of the initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and to continually consolidate the NATO Armed Forces to implement the policy of deterrence from a position of strength.

Some Western papers have further spread propaganda saying that the Soviet Union is forced to reduce its Armed Forces and armaments because of its major economic difficulties. Evidently, everyone understands that a reduction in military spending will increase economic strength. However, the Soviet peace initiatives do not stem only from this reduction. Most importantly, they begin with a foreign policy of peace and a policy of demilitarizing international relations which the Soviet party and state have advocated.

The disarmament process can steadily advance only if nations, especially the major military powers, truly support and engage in it. This requires the United States and Western countries to perform concrete and practical works that positively respond to the good will of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

More Foreign Companies Invest in Sericulture
*BK2603091289 Hanoi VNA in English 0731 GMT
26 Mar 89*

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 26—Five more foreign companies have invested in sericulture in the central highlands province of Lam Dong.

These companies are from Japan, India, South Korea and Thailand made the total investments of 8.2 million U.S. dollars in the form of low-interest loans to the Union of Vietnam Mulberry-Silkworm Enterprises to import machines and promote silk production.

The union has also been cooperating with the Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria and Mongolia in this field.

Three Central Provinces Hit by Food Shortage
BK2603090689 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 25 Mar 89

[Text] According to the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare, the food shortage in the current lean preharvest period has affected only a limited area and is less acute than in 1988. However, in some districts and villages of Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, and Binh Tri Thien provinces, the situation has been quite critical. Despite this, owing to the lessons learned from the 1988 crisis, the central and local authorities have been able to monitor the situation more closely, have avoided reacting in a hasty fashion, and have actively tapped all sources of grain and provided more capital and commodities to sell or loan to the people, thereby helping to alleviate their difficulties during the preharvest period. Aside from offering assistance in the form of materials and fertilizer, the authorities have motivated the people to grow more vegetables, subsidiary food crops, and spring rice. Many localities have also donated food, blankets, mosquito nets, and clothing to people in localities hit by the food shortage to tide them over the difficult times and to help them stabilize their living standards and develop production.

In March, Nghe Tinh Province sent 14,000 metric tons of rice to the localities concerned, mostly to the districts of Thanh Chuong and Ky Anh and six other highland and coastal districts worst hit by the food shortage. In January and February, Thanh Hoa Province provided 298 metric tons of paddy as relief aid mainly for people covered by social welfare policies. It also loaned 269 metric tons of paddy and 1,033 metric tons of cassava to people suffering from food shortage. In March, the province will give the people 1,000 metric tons of rice and loan them another 6,700 metric tons of paddy. It will also spend 100 million dong to buy blankets, mosquito nets, and warm clothes for people in areas stricken by natural calamities. For its part, Binh Tri Thien has not only encouraged people to actively carry out food production but has also provided 513 metric tons of grain as relief aid, sold 13,000 metric tons, and loaned 300 metric tons of paddy to needy people. The province has bought 30,000 metric tons of rice from the south to prevent chaos and tension in the local rice market.

The Council of Ministers and the ministries of agriculture and food industry, labor, war invalids and social welfare, and finance recently sent three teams of officials to inspect the situation in Nghe Tinh, Thanh Hoa, and Binh Tri Thien provinces.

Leaders Hold New Year Meeting With Hoa People
BK2403130289 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG
in Vietnamese 28 Feb 89 pp 1, 2

[Truong Son report on a Lunar New Year Meeting with the Hoa People in Ho Chi Minh City on Sunday, 26 February 1989]

[Text] "Our city's present task of dealing with the Hoa people is more fruitful and multifarious yet also more complicated than it was before. We must necessarily intensify this task, renew our operating procedures, and train succeeding cadres and younger forces in order to respond to our country's open-door and renovation policies as well as meet the increasingly comprehensive demands of the Hoa people in production and life for the days ahead."

City party committee Secretary Vo Tran Chi said this during his cordial meeting with 300 representatives of key and retired senior cadres of revolutionary bases and the Hoa handicraft producers in the city, which was organized by the Hoa People's Operation Committee in the Cultural House of 5th Precinct on Sunday 26 February 1989 for Lunar New Year.

He wished the representatives and Hoa people a New Year of solidarity, good health, full of initiatives for improvement and renovation, and profitable and prosperous business which can rapidly help our country develop and prosper to some important level in Southeast Asia and the world.

In the spirit of straightforwardly speaking the truth, many of the Hoa representatives voiced their thoughts and practical views related to life which can help develop the national economy and overcome difficulties in production. They earnestly wished that the state would promptly promulgate the Domestic Investment Law and create conditions for further bringing into play the potentials of the Hoa people in the city. The issues of advanced training and party and youth union development among the Hoa people and better teaching of the Chinese language in schools with numerous students of Hoa origin were also raised by many representatives.

Also attending the meeting were chairman of the city's Fatherland Front Committee Nguyen Van Hanh and some other comrades in charge of various sections and sectors in the city.

French Polynesia

Local Government 'Plunged Into Further Turmoil'
*BK2303025589 Hong Kong AFP in English 0240 GMT
23 Mar 89*

[Text] Papeete, March 23 (AFP)—The Government of French Polynesia, already reeling from a battering in local elections, has been plunged into further turmoil after an administrative tribunal annulled the appointment of half its ministers.

President Alexandre Leontieff was defeated in local municipal elections on March 12 and then on Tuesday saw half his cabinet appointments scrapped by the tribunal because their nominations did not go before the territorial assembly last year.

The assembly is due to meet to approve a new government on April 3, but Mr Leontieff faces a rough ride.

He and four ministers lost control of town halls in the municipal elections which considerably weakened their hold on power.

Mr Leontieff, a left-leaning independent, announced that he would appeal the tribunal ruling to France's State Council (Conseil d'Etat). In the meantime the five remaining ministers would take over the vacant portfolios.

The eastern pacific territory is administered by a Council of Ministers whose president is elected by the 30-seat assembly. Members of the assembly are elected every five years.

Papua New Guinea

Troops Sent To Control Bougainville Riots
*BK2603090089 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 26 Mar 89*

[Text] The Papua New Guinea Government has flown army troops to the island of Bougainville to help police control continuing ethnic disturbances. Radio Australia's Sean Dorney, who has been ordered out of the province by the Bougainville authorities, says it is expected that the arrival of troops will allow the resumption of regular commercial flights in and out of the island province. He says that the passenger checks will be

carried out in makeshift quarters in a Bougainville Copper Limited hangar because of the damage caused to the permanent airport buildings by rioters.

Meanwhile the Australian Foreign Affairs Department in Canberra says it has no word from Port Moresby about the order for Australian journalists to leave Bougainville. The department spokesman says Canberra is keeping a close watch on the situation in the province. Sean Dorney says several hundred Australians work on the island, most of them at the Bougainville copper mine.

Solomon Islands

Official Nominated To Lead New Coalition
*BK1603055589 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 89*

[Text] A new political grouping has been formed in the Solomon Islands. A report by the Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation says the group, known as the National Coalition for National Unity, follows a meeting in Honiara between members of the United Party, the Liberal Party, the National Front for Progress, and independent members of Parliament. The group resolves to elect the leader of the Liberal Party, Mr Ulufa'alu, its leader and candidate for the election of prime minister.

Nominations for the prime ministership were being received at Government House today and elections are to be held next Tuesday.

The National Coalition for National Unity has 14 members. The major party, the Alliance, has 21 members of Parliament.

'Difficulties' Delay Prime Minister's Election
*BK2103061089 Melbourne Overseas Service
in English 0500 GMT 21 Mar 89*

[Text] The election of the Solomon Islands next prime minister, due to take place today, has been postponed for a week. Radio Australia's South Pacific correspondent, (Jemimah McGarrett), said the postponement of the election was announced by Solomon Islands Governor General, Sir George Lepping.

In a statement issued in Honiara, Sir George said he had decided to call fresh nominations for the position because of what he described as technical difficulties.

The nominations for the post will be received at Government House today. The governor general said all members of Parliament had been informed of his decision.

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28 March 1989